



Proceedings of the Members' Assembly

World Conservation Congress
Honolulu, Hawai'i, United States of America
6–10 September 2016



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Published by: IUCN, Gland, Switzerland

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Citation: IUCN (2016). *Proceedings of the Members' Assembly*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. 122pp.

Produced by: IUCN Publications Unit

Available for
download from: www.iucn.org/resources/publications

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Minutes of the Members' Assembly of the 2016 World Conservation Congress

Hawai'i Convention Center, Honolulu, Hawai'i, United States of America, 6–10 September 2016

Note: Except if specified otherwise, all decisions of the Members' Assembly were taken by electronic vote. The electronic voting record for each decision is available from the Congress website. In these Minutes, the relevant voting record reference number is given in brackets above each decision. All declarations of vote made by Members in relation to motions (including those concerning motions approved by electronic vote prior to the Congress) have been published alongside the final, approved texts of the motions concerned. Declarations and formal statements 'for the record' made or announced orally during plenary Sitzings, whether relating to motions or other decisions of Congress, are also recorded in these Minutes.

Opening Ceremony of the World Conservation Congress

Thursday 1 September 2016 (10.00–12.00)

The Opening Ceremony of the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress, Hawai'i, attended by almost 10,000 participants, and featuring performances of traditional Hawaiian music and dance, was held at the Neal S. Blaisdell Center, Honolulu, on Thursday 1 September 2016. The **Master of Ceremonies, Kamana'opono Crabbe**, CEO – Office of Hawaiian Affairs, welcomed participants, emphasising the importance of forging relationships to address climate change and inviting all present to share the 'aloha' with one other.

The **Governor of Hawai'i David Ige**, referred to an island as a “*microcosm of Planet Earth*,” and emphasised that island communities see the impacts of invasive species, wildfires and unsustainable fishing practices close to home. He announced the Hawai'i Sustainable Initiative, including the following goals: protecting 30% of the State's highest-producing watersheds; effectively managing 30% of near-shore waters; doubling local food production by 2030; developing a biosecurity plan focused on partnerships to prevent, detect, and control invasive species; and moving to 100% use of renewable energy sources in the electricity sector by 2045. He also announced that Hawai'i was joining the Global Island Partnership with a view to developing models for sustainability at the local level. He urged participants to work together to make a difference for 'Island Earth'.

US Secretary of the Interior, Sally Jewell, noted that “*humans' identity and culture is shaped largely by the waters and lands that they inhabit*.” She saluted US President Barack Obama's expansion of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in western Hawai'i by more than 442,778 square miles (1,146,790 km²), creating the world's largest marine reserve. She observed that islands were especially vulnerable to biodiversity loss, and whilst endangered species could be successfully conserved and restored, this required strategic planning. Secretary Jewel further underlined the need to protect wildlife corridors, to address the scourge of illegal wildlife trafficking, to respect and utilise the traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples, and to push for the implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change by sending clear signals to all stakeholders.

Hawaiian Senator, Brian Schatz, noted growing reasons for optimism despite the ongoing impacts of climate change, drought and loss of biodiversity in forests and oceans. He observed increasing global political will among leaders and practitioners from the infrastructure, farming, insurance and disaster management sectors. Fortunately the notion that taking action on climate change mitigation and adaptation was cheaper and smarter than merely reacting to disasters had now become mainstream.

The **President of Palau, Tommy Remengesau**, considered that President Obama's designation of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument "*cements his legacy as an ocean leader.*" In the spirit of a good-natured challenge, he commented that when the US matched Palau's accomplishment of protecting 80% of its Exclusive Economic Zone, it would "*finally be ready to join the big league.*" He cited Palau's efforts to protect marine resources, including the world's first shark sanctuary. Noting that the establishment of new marine protected areas in many different areas over the past two years showed the "*wind is rising at our back,*" he emphasised the need for speed and determination to meet the urgent challenges.

The **Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Erik Solheim**, presented examples of innovation in conservation from all over the world and stressed the need to bring the initiatives of all stakeholders together in one coherent flow. Noting the necessity for humans to take care of 'Mother Earth', he saluted the G20 efforts in rapidly transitioning to green finance. Presenting the UN Secretary-General's warmest congratulations and strong support, Solheim reminded participants that "*no task is too big if we act together.*"

The **State Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Slovakia, Norbert Kurilla**, speaking on behalf of the **European Union**, called on the Congress to produce pragmatic solutions for nature that could be implemented on the ground, highlighting opportunities for progress at upcoming meetings under a number of multilateral environmental agreements.

Kamehameha Schools Trustee, Corbett Kalama, referred to his school, with its emphasis on perpetuating Hawaiian culture and good stewardship of natural resources, as the largest indigenous land trust in the world. Observing that "*we look to the past for the answers,*" he noted that indigenous peoples have always had the answers. He offered a blessing of gratitude for IUCN's work of preserving the world for future generations and "*taking action now.*"

The **President of IUCN, Zhang Xinsheng**, stressed that the Congress had an important role in translating the historic global agreements of 2015 into action. Inviting participants to show how they planned to contribute to implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, he reminded them that their decisions would "*define the opportunities and limitations of future generations.*" Highlighting the need for joint global efforts to "*move the world from a tipping point to a turning point*", he declared the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress open.

1st Sitting of the Members' Assembly

Tuesday 6 September 2016 (08.30–13.00)

The commencement of the Members' Assembly was preceded by traditional Hawaiian chant expressing the Aloha Spirit Law.

An opening address was made by the **President of IUCN** (Mr Zhang Xinsheng). He asked the Assembly to join him in observing a minute of silence to honour those who had laid down their lives in the name of conservation since the 2012 World Conservation Congress.

Declaring the 1st Sitting of the Members' Assembly open, the **President** welcomed all delegates, representing both IUCN Members and Observers, and introduced the individuals sitting with him on the podium. These included the **Director General**, Inger Andersen, **Congress Director** Enrique Lahmann, **Congress Procedural Adviser** Justice Sena Wijewardane, **IUCN's Legal Adviser** Sandrine Friedli Cela, and the **Secretary to Council** who also acted as **Members' Assembly Manager**, Luc De Wever.

Agenda item 1.1 – Appointment and first report of the Congress Credentials Committee

The **Members' Assembly Manager** explained the use of the electronic system for requesting the floor, speaking, voting and making Points of Order. He also briefed delegates on how to communicate with the Congress secretariat via assembly@iucn.org e.g. in order to submit the written text of interventions or declarations of vote, and encouraged the use of online documents in line with the goal of a 'paperless Congress'. Responding to a Point of Order raised by **Environment and Conservation Organizations of New Zealand**, he clarified the system for ensuring that proxy votes were recorded accurately.

The **President** referred Members to Congress Documents WCC-2016-1.1/1 Rev 1 *Terms of Reference for and Composition of Congress Committees*, WCC-2016-1.1/1-Annex 1 *Credentials Committee of Congress* and WCC-2016-1.1/1-Annex 7-Rev 3 *Council proposal for membership of Congress Committees*. He invited the Assembly to approve the proposed composition of the Congress Credentials Committee.

Congress took the following decision [[voting record](#)]:

DECISION 1

Congress APPROVES the Terms of Reference and the membership of the Credentials Committee:

George GREENE (Canada) Chair
Froilán ESQUICA CANO (Mexico)
Archana GODBOLE (India)
Albertine TCHOULACK (Cameroon)
Chipper WICHMAN (USA)
Robin YARROW (Fiji)

The **President** noted that the candidates for membership of the Credentials Committee had already begun working in anticipation of the Committee's formal establishment. He invited the newly appointed **Chair of the Credentials Committee** to present a brief progress report.

The **Chair of the Credentials Committee** (George Greene) highlighted the successful introduction of an Online Accreditation System for the 2016 World Conservation Congress, noting that this had enabled suppression of the two-week deadline for accreditation that had applied ahead of previous Congresses. Accreditation could now be processed on a same-day basis, subject to a delay of one Sitting of the Assembly in order to allow sufficient time for voting card preparation and system programming. In addition, he drew attention to the speaking and proxy rights now accorded to accredited delegates of National and Regional Committees.

The total number of potential votes held by IUCN Members in good standing was:

Category A (Government and Governmental Agencies): 230 votes
Category B (International and National NGOs): 1,062 votes

Of these potential votes, the voting power of accredited members represented at the 2016 World Conservation Congress, as of 13.00 hrs on Monday 5 September 2016 was:

Category A (Government and Governmental Agencies): 184 votes (80%)
Category B (International and National NGOs): 744 votes (70%)

Agenda item 1.2 – Adoption of the Agenda

The **President** referred the Assembly to Congress documents WCC-2016-1.2/1 *Draft Agenda of the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress* and WCC-2016-1.2/1-Annex 1-Rev 1 *Draft Agenda of the World Conservation Congress* (dated 10 August 2016). He drew attention to modifications in the structure of the meeting that had been introduced in response to feedback from Members following the 2012 Assembly in Jeju. He also highlighted the revised motions process, which had included online discussion and electronic voting for a large proportion of motions.

In response to a question from **Center for Environmental Legal Studies** (USA) the **President** noted that the Draft Agenda included dedicated time for discussion of the Draft IUCN Programme 2017–2020.

Congress took the following decision [[voting record](#)]:

DECISION 2

Congress APPROVES the [Agenda for the 2016 World Conservation Congress](#).

Agenda item 1.3 – Appointment of the Resolutions, Finance and Audit, Governance, and Programme Committees of the Congress

Referring to Congress Document WCC-2016-1.1/1-Rev1 *Terms of Reference and membership of the Committees of Congress*, the **President** noted that the composition of the Steering Committee was defined by Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure and so did not require a Congress decision. Membership of the Committee was as follows:

Xinsheng ZHANG (China) (President), Chair
Malik Amin Aslam KHAN (Pakistan) (Vice-President)
Miguel PELLERANO (Argentina) (Vice-President)
John ROBINSON (USA) (Vice-President)
Marina von WEISSENBERG (Finland) (Vice-President)
Brahim HADDANE (Morocco)
Brendan MACKKEY (Australia)
Aroha MEAD (New Zealand)
Nilufer ORAL (Turkey) (Deputy Chair of Council's Congress Preparatory Committee)
Mohammad SHAHBAZ (Jordan) (Chair of Council's Congress Preparatory Committee)
William AILA, State of Hawai'i (USA)
Christine DAWSON, State Department (USA)
Inger ANDERSEN (Director General)

The President noted that the draft Terms of Reference of the Congress Steering Committee, as well as those for the Congress Resolutions Committee, Finance and Audit Committee, Governance Committee and Programme Committee, were being submitted for approval under this Agenda item. The proposed composition of each Committee was contained in Congress Document WCC-2016-1.1/1 *Terms of Reference for and membership of Congress Committees, Annex 2 to Annex 7*.

Speaking on behalf of **Council's Congress Preparatory Committee**, **Aroha Mead** explained the process that had been followed in drawing up the proposed composition of Congress Committees from among the 130 nominations received. This had taken into account the need for balance across the six Committees in terms of regional representation, IUCN membership categories (A & B) and gender, as well as inclusion of National and Regional Committee Chairs. Of the 49 candidates recommended for appointment, 23 were female and 26 were male.

The **President** opened the floor to comments or questions.

International Council of Environmental Law suggested that, given the importance of young leaders, efforts should be made to include youth in the composition of Congress Committees.

The **President** invited the Assembly to make additional nominations of young delegates who could be considered for appointment to Congress Committees. He underlined that nominees needed to be delegates representing IUCN Members.

Nominations were made by:

- **Center for Environmental Legal Studies** (USA)
- **Environmental Law Program at the William S. Richardson School of Law** (USA)
- **Canadian Wildlife Federation** (Canada)
- **Conservation Council for Hawai'i** (USA)
- **Fundación Futuro Latinoamericano** (Ecuador)
- **Unnayan Onneshan** (Bangladesh)
- **Ecological Society of the Philippines** (Philippines)
- **Tropical Resources Institute** (Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies) (USA)
- **African Wildlife Foundation – Kenya HQ**
- **Nigerian Conservation Foundation** (Nigeria)
- **Biofutura A.C.** (Mexico)
- **Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority** (Ethiopia)

Coastal Area Resource Development and Management Association (Bangladesh) called for greater representation from developing countries, particularly from the south, and for there to be full gender balance.

Baanhn Beli (Pakistan) considered that the process followed by Council had afforded ample opportunity for Members to nominate candidates prior to Congress and cautioned against making too many changes on the basis of last-minute nominations.

The **President** requested the **Congress Steering Committee** to review the additional nominations received and postponed the decision on appointment of the Resolutions, Finance and Audit, Governance, and Programme Committees of Congress until the 2nd Sitting of the Members' Assembly.

Agenda item 1.4 – Report of the Director General

The **President** welcomed Inger Andersen as the new **Director General** of IUCN. He also acknowledged the presence of the **former Director General** Julia Marton-Lefèvre.

The **Director General** (Inger Andersen) referred to Congress Documents WCC-2016-1.4/1 *Report of the Director General*, WCC-2016-1.4/1-Annex 1 *Progress on Implementation of Resolutions-Recommendations*, WCC-2016-1.4/1-Annex 2 *External Evaluation of IUCN's Governance and Council Decision* and WCC-2016-1.4/1-Annex 3 *IUCN External Review 2015*.

The **Director General** prefaced her remarks by welcoming the record attendance at the Hawai'i Congress and noting that IUCN was trending on social media in multiple countries. She highlighted a number of the major events that had taken place during the Congress, such as the Key Biodiversity Areas Partnership launch.

Turning to achievements and milestones during the past four years, she reflected on the role of IUCN in helping to ensure that the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) promoted sustainable

development in all its dimensions, cautioning that environment had to be integrated across all of the SDGs and not placed in a 'stand alone' category. IUCN was also continuing to champion and monitor the implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and was now fully present in the climate change debate. Indeed, the Union had made significant new contributions, including to the Paris Agreement, highlighting the imperative of investing in nature for both climate adaptation and mitigation. Another key milestone had been the recognition of IUCN as an implementing agency of both the Global Environment Facility and the Green Climate Fund. The six IUCN Commissions were powerhouses of the Union that had continued to provide the world with evidence-based knowledge for decision making at all levels.

The new motions system introduced for the Hawai'i Congress had further enriched IUCN's democratic credentials, enabling all voices to be heard and providing space for every Member to contribute to defining the Union's conservation agenda. Some 85 motions had already been approved through e-voting.

The **Director General** observed that the world had entered a new period where environmentalism was in the mainstream but where the environmental community was also facing significant new challenges. Among these was a massive conservation finance gap, where the resources allocated by nations, businesses and others were falling far short of the pledges made towards environmental action. The 'Power of Union' embodied by IUCN's networks, data and science could help bring stakeholders together around coordinated efforts and to translate the good will manifested in 2015, through the SDGs and Paris Agreement, into concrete action. An important part of this would be to engage beyond the 'already converted' and to see the world through the eyes of the business and finance communities.

It was clear that the world needed IUCN:

- For agriculture and food security;
- To learn from, to promote and to convey indigenous knowledge;
- For the data, facts and evidence required by world leaders in decision making processes;
- To ensure gender was prominent in all environmental fora and processes;
- To help ease the pressures that led to civil strife, forced migration, violent conflict and which the world often failed to connect with environmental degradation;
- To spotlight the role of nature as a vital ally in the fight against climate change;
- To make poverty reduction and economic growth sustainable;
- To help save the oceans (a new IUCN report had shown that ocean warming was threatening life in the oceans and, by extension, on land);
- Because healthy nature was essential for human health.

In brief, the world needed IUCN because the world needed nature. The conservation community had enormous power when it stood and acted together. Over the next four years and beyond, it was essential for IUCN to play the role the world expected and needed. But this would require a stronger IUCN and for this the world needed to invest in the Power of Union.

The **President** invited comments or questions from the floor.

Responding to a question from **Baanhn Beli** (Pakistan) on the issue of mobilising new resources, the **Director General** pointed out that there would be an agenda item dealing directly with this during the 2nd Sitting.

Unnayan Onneshan (Bangladesh) raised issues relating to the size and the regional representativeness of the Secretariat, as well as concerns about IUCN's policy and technical agenda being overly donor driven.

The **Director General** responded that IUCN's decentralised Secretariat comprised just under 1,000 individuals, only 160 of whom were located at headquarters, with a correspondingly large regional

presence and representation. She noted that many donors had been extremely generous to IUCN, some providing unrestricted income, and that projects were increasingly implemented hand-in-hand with Members. In all cases priorities were aligned with the IUCN Programme.

Development of Biotechnology & Environmental Conservation Centre (Bangladesh) proposed the creation of an IUCN Science Committee.

The **Director General** commented that science was already embedded in the six IUCN Commissions.

Foundation Antonio Núñez Jiménez for Humanity and Nature (Cuba) objected to the listing of 2015 Regional Members' contained in the Director General's written report. This referred to 'Mesoamerica' alone, instead of to the whole region of 'Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean'.

The **Director General** clarified that an abbreviation had been made purely for reasons of space and that no discrimination between sub-regions had been intended.

Environmental Foundation for Africa (Sierra Leone) highlighted the sparse membership of IUCN in English-speaking West Africa, such as Liberia and Sierra Leone.

Responding to **Ministère de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable** (Senegal), the **Director General** commented on the importance of mainstreaming biodiversity and business, highlighting that the work done by the Business and Biodiversity Programme helped to establish good business practice.

In answer to a question from **Association Ribat Al Fath** (Morocco), the **Director General** confirmed the engagement of IUCN in CBD COP22 in Morocco.

In response to questions from **Cameroon Environmental Watch** (Cameroon), **Groupe de Recherche et d'Etudes Environnementales** (Senegal) and **Nigerian Environmental Study Action Team** (Nigeria), the **Director General** highlighted the need to work jointly with Commissions and with Members, including in the search for resources. She took on board the need to build membership in some regions such as West and Central Africa. Currently, about 60% of IUCN's projects involved direct engagement with Members, but the new Project Portal would allow better tracking of the Union's project portfolio, including engagement with Members.

Institute of Environmental Sciences, Leiden University (The Netherlands) noted with concern that a table contained in the Director General's written report indicated a low level of One Programme engagement by National and Regional Committees during the period 2012–2015.

The **Director General** underlined the high priority being given to the establishment of new National and Regional Committees. Several had been recognised by Council during the last year or so and others were in the process of becoming established. This would help to drive up the relevant statistic for One Programme engagement.

The **Director General** concurred with the comments of **Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority** (Ethiopia) that grassroots community engagement was a key element of best practice in environmental projects.

Finally, in reply to **Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition** (USA) the **Director General** recalled that the need for IUCN to engage in the Antarctic and Southern Ocean region, especially in the context of climate change, had been stressed at the Regional Conservation Forum held in Fiji. However, she also underlined the challenge of securing resources to work in that region.

Agenda item 1.5 – Report of the Council

Thanking Members and fellow Councillors for engaging so closely with him during the past four years, the **President** acknowledged the presence and immense contribution to conservation of **former IUCN President Ashok Khosla**. He invited the four **Vice-Presidents for 2013–2016, Malik Amin Aslam Khan** (Pakistan), **Miguel Pellerano** (Argentina), **John Robinson** (USA) and **Marina von Weissenberg** (Finland) to join him on the podium, thereby symbolising the shared responsibility of Council as a whole.

Referring to Congress Document WCC-2016-1.5/1 *Report of IUCN Council to 2016 World Conservation Congress*, the **President** noted that the outgoing Council had been working at a critical time for both nature conservation and human development. In the island State of Hawai'i, USA, IUCN was in the midst of an extraordinary World Conservation Congress attended by more than 10,000 delegates, all dedicated to shared conservation goals. IUCN would continue to be the voice for nature, respecting life in all its diversity, recognising every form of life as having value regardless of its worth to human beings. The successful negotiation of the Paris Agreement and the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals had signalled both the potential for a new era and the extent of the challenges that lay ahead. IUCN had an unprecedented opportunity to promote the benefits of conservation and their significance to sustainable livelihoods within planetary boundaries. Nature-based solutions could help to implement the Paris Agreement and the SDGs and had already contributed to achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Over the past four years, Council had devoted particular attention to:

- Ensuring, within a rapidly changing resource-mobilisation landscape, that IUCN remained well placed to maximise its contributions to emerging opportunities and challenges by providing strategic direction and policy guidance in accordance with Council's statutory responsibilities;
- Improving governance by maintaining a spirit of solidarity with Members and helping to mobilise and synergise all components of the Union along with its stakeholders;
- Promoting value-added services for IUCN's diverse membership, including both governments and NGOs, and moving the Union towards becoming more Member orientated;
- Promoting the importance of the 'One Programme Approach', which had significantly enhanced the integration between the Union's components and helped develop a deeper understanding of the issues of significance to all IUCN regions and constituencies; and
- Contributing to strengthening the delivery and impact of IUCN's policies and Programme.

Major achievements during the reporting period had included:

- A smooth transition in the leadership of the Secretariat, which had seen the appointment of Ms Inger Andersen as the new Director General;
- Modernisation of IUCN's governance to bring membership more fully into the Union's decision-making process and to enable Council to exercise more fully accountability to Members;
- Provision of guidance and oversight, through the Motions Working Group, for implementation of the new motions process in the run-up to the Hawai'i Congress;
- Introduction of a modernised electronic voting system to address the need to strengthen Members' direct participation in key governance decisions;
- Approval of the IUCN Business Engagement Strategy, developed through the Council's Private Sector Task Force;
- Approval of the updated Operational Guidelines for Business Engagement, which had facilitated IUCN's private-sector engagements, including approval of IUCN's agreement with Toyota Motor Corporation establishing a five-year partnership to provide funding to broaden the scope of *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* and a new area-based approach in IUCN's cooperation with the multinational corporation Royal Dutch Shell;
- A decision to develop a strategic vision for IUCN on agriculture and biodiversity;

- Developing a strategic vision for IUCN's Programme 2017–2020; and
- Admission of 273 new IUCN Members since 2012 alongside recognition of six new National Committees.

Issues that the incoming Council for 2017–2020 might wish to consider were detailed in Council's written report (Congress Document WCC-2016-1.5/1 *Report of IUCN Council to 2016 World Conservation Congress*). Additionally, it was recommended that the next Council should consider:

- Ensuring that the nominations process and corresponding criteria enabled the 2020 World Conservation Congress to elect to Council candidates with both a strong commitment to conservation and the competencies and profile needed to leverage influence with key political and economic actors, along with new sources of resources and finances needed for conservation; and
- Increasing engagement of young people and women.

The **President** concluded by underlining that the world had entered a new era with the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Climate Change Agreement. Sustainability and ecological issues had inarguably reached the top level of the global agenda. The IUCN community needed to continue to enhance and strengthen its special and crucial role as second to none in helping to deliver scientifically sound, holistic and resilient nature-based solutions, to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature, and to ensure equitable and ecologically sustainable use of natural resources and biodiversity. It was vital for IUCN to continue to support 'Nature for All', inclusive of women and youth, and to meet the needs of Members from all regions. IUCN needed to promote still further the contribution that conservation and nature-based solutions could make to the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement. As reflected in the theme of the Hawai'i Congress, the world found itself at a crossroads, facing a critical decade where opportunities had to be grasped if humans and nature were to live sustainably together on a healthy planet.

The **President** thanked the four Vice-Presidents of IUCN and all members of Council, in particular the Chairs of the IUCN Commissions and the Chairs of the various Council Committees, Task Forces and Working Groups, for their dedication to conservation and to the Union. He also expressed his gratitude to the Director General and all members of the Secretariat who had supported the Council in many ways, enabling it to function effectively and efficiently.

The **President** invited comments or questions from the floor.

AWAZ Foundation Pakistan Center of Development Services (Pakistan) enquired how IUCN would integrate the targets and indicators of the SDGs and help to hold private sector and governments accountable. Particular attention needed to be given to rights-based approaches to the SDGs.

Sierra Club (USA) acknowledged the efforts made to increase the transparency of the work of the Union and Council through the development of the Council portal. However, the IUCN portal overall remained difficult to navigate and it was hoped future improvements could be made.

Unnayan Onneshan (Bangladesh) emphasised the need for downward accountability. The 10-page written report of Council had only 19 rhetorical sentences on what IUCN was doing for Members. It was important for Council to develop an action plan, with verifiable and measurable indicators, to strengthen the Union's membership. IUCN needed to make institutional reforms to create a 21st century organisation that could boast of its democratic credentials. This should include strengthening interaction with National and Regional Committees. There was a need for greater transparency and accountability and it would be important to know if there were cases of whistleblowing in IUCN. If so, what measures had been taken in response?

Nature Conservation Management (Bangladesh) emphasised the need to build capacity of membership organisations through provision of tools and training programmes from the regional and

local Secretariat offices. This was not happening as expected and the Secretariat should play a more active role in resource mobilisation for Members.

Association Ribat Al Fath (Morocco) drew attention to protected areas in the Mediterranean basin, which remained a biodiversity hotspot, and questioned what IUCN was doing for the Mediterranean.

Nature, Environment and Wildlife Society (India) commented on the rise of fundamentalism and of violence globally and the challenges of addressing conservation of nature in some countries. IUCN needed to address this issue and the Nature For All initiative could play a critical role.

Association Malienne pour la Conservation (Mali) appreciated the President's visit to Bamako. Amidst the challenges posed by insecurity, the elephant population shared by Mali and Burkina Faso was dwindling due to poaching. IUCN needed to increase its efforts to engage with Members in Mali on the mitigation of this major problem.

Le Club Marocain pour l'Environnement et le Développement (Morocco) advocated for conservation education to be promoted and widely implemented, so that youth could become conservation advocates within communities, thereby promoting sustainable development all over the world.

Shehri Citizens for a Better Environment (Pakistan) outlined the challenges faced by Pakistan as a consequence of climate change. IUCN should penalise those countries that were most responsible for industrial pollution and help countries that required support.

Fundación RIE – Red Informática Ecologista (Argentina) extended appreciation to the President and Director General for the efforts they had made to get to know Members in the regions. However, IUCN needed to consult better with grassroots NGOs, to work in a more coordinated way with Members attending COPs and other major international meetings, and to engage with entities that were not Members of IUCN but which had crucial conservation knowledge. The Union needed to do more to mobilise resources for Members and to ensure that documents for the Members' Assembly were available in sufficient time for Members to consult fully with one another.

The **President** invited any Members that wished to raise additional points to write directly to him and to the Director General. Whatever IUCN had achieved – or tried to achieve – IUCN should always look for opportunities to improve. Several Members had referred to the SDGs and the role of IUCN. The Council, Secretariat and Commissions were in agreement that the SDGs represented a wonderful opportunity that required action. Over the past four years, the Director General and the six Commission Chairs had tried to adapt IUCN's approach to the SDGs and had tried to learn from Regional and National Committees. The first page of the Congress Resolution on the SDGs focused on integration and this was reflected in IUCN's Programme, Financial Plan and policy guidelines. IUCN needed to consider converging of interests. Government and NGO Members needed to converge and provide a platform where key players could meet. How could the Council make itself more accountable to the membership? The Council worked with the Secretariat and the six Commissions and was responsible for strategic direction and policy guidance and oversight. The Secretariat was responsible for implementation. Considerable attention had been devoted to development of the IUCN portal and embracing of social media and more would continue to be done to strengthen these key communication tools.

With regard to accountability, the **President** noted that Council always had this in mind. The former President and Council had already undertaken much good work, but the organisation was continuing to learn and would forge ahead and adapt to new circumstances. He had taken the opportunity to meet with many National and Regional Committees, which had afforded important opportunities for discussing issues of concern to Members. Institutional reform was important; IUCN was a democracy. The most important part of a tree was its roots and IUCN policies and Programme should be

developed bottom-up as well as top-down. In response to this IUCN had increased membership engagement, for example through the introduction of electronic voting.

There was a need for capacity building of members in Africa, Latin America and Asia which were rich in biodiversity. The Secretariat needed to be guided towards capacity building, technology and resource mobilisation in those areas. Climate change had been mentioned by several Members. Climate change was the most serious threat confronting the planet and Council had set climate change as a top priority for the Union. He highlighted a number of the specific actions undertaken, including IUCN's role in the Paris Agreement.

Regarding education of youth and children, nothing was more important and efforts had been made by Council, Secretariat and all six Commissions (but especially the Commission for Education and Communication) to increase participation of youth in the Union. Mainstreaming of education was needed to help change mind-sets, values, consumerism and production.

Regarding the comments made by Fundación RIE (Argentina) concerning timely provision of Congress documents, he concurred that documents needed to be available to Members with sufficient time for consultation. He considered that the Secretariat and National Host Committee had made the utmost efforts in preparing the Hawai'i Congress and that a good job had been done in the provision of documentation, but there was of course room to improve.

The **Director General** commented that with regard to 'whistle blowing', IUCN had a clear code of conduct which held Council, Members and Secretariat staff accountable. Concerning availability of Congress documents, all decision documents had been made available on 1 June 2016, and remaining documents published on 11 July 2016, in all three languages. The Secretariat had made great efforts to improve the portal but it was noted that more could be done to make it more responsive and 'intelligent'. IUCN needed to get better at convening its Members at major events such as COPs. This might include holding side events for Members. The point was well received and the Secretariat would engage Regional Directors to get seek further input from Members on how future improvements might be made.

The **President** invited the four Vice-Presidents to respond.

John Robinson noted that a number of the questions from Members focused on how IUCN planned to strengthen outreach and engagement with Members. Council was elected by Members and was making progress through the 'One Programme Approach' to strengthen transparency. Some issues related to how the expertise of Commissions was built into the work of the Union. Council was seeking to address this and other issues, which remained a 'work in progress'.

Miguel Pellerano commented on the need for IUCN to focus even more strongly on transparency, access to information, education, capacity building, increased solidarity and strengthening of membership. All this needed to happen in order for the organisation to do a better job.

Marina von Weissenberg considered that much of the discussion came down to the need for effective teamwork. Members and Council should be one. This meant there should be excellent information sharing between the Council and Members. IUCN was a diverse and beautiful family but the organisation on its own could not do everything. There was a need to focus and prioritise and also a need to be united.

Malik Amin Aslam Khan commented that IUCN had been very strongly engaged in both the Paris Agreement and the SDGs. The real challenge was what to do next. IUCN had to be a leader in the implementation process and this was something that Council would be looking at over the next four years, including continued engagement with Members via a sustained process. It was important that Regional and National Committees remained engaged.

The **President** thanked the Director General and the four Vice Presidents. He assured Members that their concerns were high on Council's agenda. Institutional and governance reform and increased accountability, including the role of Regional and National Committees, all required the input of Members.

Agenda item 1.6 – First Report of the Resolutions Committee and recording *en bloc* the adoption of motions through the electronic ballot prior to Congress

The **President** recognised the commitment and hard work of the Motions Working Group and invited the Chair-designate of the Resolutions Committee of Congress to present the Committee's report.

The **Chair-designate of the Resolutions Committee** (Simon Stuart) recalled that through an electronic vote in April 2015, the IUCN Membership had adopted the revised motions process with an overwhelming majority. By the deadline of 12 February 2016, 135 motions (129 from Members, 6 from Council) had been submitted through the online system and reviewed by the Motions Working Group (MWG). Of these:

- 38 were accepted by the MWG, as originally submitted
- 43 were accepted with amendments
- 21 motions were initially rejected by the MWG but 4 of these were later reinstated after appeal
- 33 motions covering closely related topics were merged by the MWG into 14 motions

This meant a total of 99 motions had been published. During May and June 2016, the first ever online discussion of motions for the IUCN World Conservation Congress had taken place. Members from all regions and representatives of the other constituent parts of IUCN had participated actively, as demonstrated by some impressive statistics; for example, a total of 5,161 interventions included 4,133 by 206 Members. This compared with just 200 plenary interventions on motions by 100 Members in Jeju.

This had represented a completely new way of working for IUCN's decision-making process, strengthening its democratic character by significantly increasing the participation of IUCN Members in the discussion of motions. The new process had not only increased engagement of Members but also enabled full transparency. Thanks were due to the volunteer facilitators, from all components of the Union, who had done excellent work in supporting and moderating the online discussions, as well as to the motions team at the Secretariat.

Following the completion of online discussion, the MWG had concluded that 85 motions were ready to be put to electronic vote, while eight were forwarded to Congress for continued discussion and voting, alongside six motions that had already been identified as meriting discussion at global level due to their strategic importance. A further six governance-related motions would also be discussed during the Congress.

The electronic voting period had opened on 3 August and closed on 17 August 2016. All 85 motions had been approved by electronic ballot, some with amendments.

Regardless of whether individual motions were subject to online discussion and voting prior to the Congress, or discussion and voting during the Congress itself, all of the resulting decisions (Resolutions and Recommendations) would have the same validity.

As required by Rule 62 *septimo* of the Rules of Procedure, the 85 motions adopted by the electronic vote prior to the Congress were being tabled for recording *en bloc* without re-opening the discussion or vote on any of them.

The **President** opened the floor to comments and questions.

National Environmental Law Association (Australia) enquired whether analysis of the online discussion would be undertaken so that Members could have a better overview of the key issues raised, especially in relation to the governance motions.

Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition considered that the statistical comparison made with the motions process followed at Jeju and other previous Congresses was inaccurate as it had not taken into account participation in the numerous Contact Groups established during those Congresses.

Development of Biotechnology and Environment (Bangladesh) noted that some motions might have involved conflicts in the views of governments and NGOs. How had governments participated in the process? What had been their reaction to such Motions? How could Members obtain further information?

Environment & Conservation Organizations of New Zealand (New Zealand) expressed interest in knowing the numbers of Members that had accessed the governance-related motions. These motions were located quite separately on the IUCN website and not included under the heading 'Motions' until quite late in the day. Some Members had indicated that they had been unaware of the existence of these six motions.

Czech Union for Nature Conservation (Czech Republic) asked about the number of Members that had chosen to enter an explanation of their vote on the record and how such explanations could be found on the IUCN portal.

Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad (Bangladesh) drew attention to the technical difficulties encountered by some Members in being able to participate easily in the online discussion and voting processes.

Department of Environmental Affairs (South Africa) drew attention to the issue of motions that called for measures or actions that would be in conflict with national legislation. The Department of Environmental Affairs had engaged with the proponents of one such motion relating to South Africa in order to find a mutually agreed solution but understood that the motion had now been voted on.

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability attached very high priority to the governance-related motions and felt that it was important to underline the difference between those motions and the technical and policy motions that had been subject to online discussion and voting.

Human Resources Development Network (Pakistan) commented on the governance consultations globally and asked for more information about how IUCN took care of its Members worldwide while working on reform of the institution.

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores (Ecuador) requested that thought be given to the presentation and sequencing of motions posted for online discussion and voting so that they Members could have a better overview of the motions as a whole.

Centre de Suivi Ecologique (Senegal) noted that motions proposed during the West and Central Africa Sub-regional Meeting had not been included in the list of motions submitted for online discussion and voting and requested clarification as to why this was the case.

SEO/BirdLife, Sociedad Española Ornitología (Spain) also sought clarification of the process, prior to online debate, when submitted motions had been filtered by the MWG. SEO BirdLife Spain had submitted a Motion that had been rejected by the MWG. SEO BirdLife Spain had subsequently appealed, but the appeal too had been rejected on the basis that the motion was not consistent with the objectives of the Union. The explanation received had been far too brief and required further justification.

Centre d'Etude de l'Environnement (Cameroon) asked how IUCN was planning to make government participation from the West and Central Africa sub-region stronger.

Ministry of the Environment (Japan) drew attention to problems encountered in posting comments in a timely manner due to the need for internal discussion and consensus before making a public intervention in the online debate. Was the Secretariat aware of such problems and was there any possibility to make improvements that would avoid such problems in future?

Responding to the points made, the **Chair-designate of the Resolutions Committee** observed that the online debate had been fantastically rich. Concerning the comparison made between participation in the revised motions process with participation at previous Congresses, it was a fair point that Contact Groups had not been taken into account, but there were no available data on the numbers of past Contact Groups established or the level of participation in them. Whether or not a Member had participated in the discussion of a given motion, and how individual Members had voted, was all publicly available information. Governments and NGOs were freely able to see how each had voted and were treated alike in the process. The six governance-related motions had indeed been included in a separate part of the website, but were now clearly signposted. Overall, the Working Group felt that for such a significant change, the revised motions process had operated well but there were certainly things that could be improved. Members wishing to place on record an explanation of their vote on one or more motions could do so by submitting their comments to an email address specifically dedicated to the motions process.

With regard to technical and IT matters, there had certainly been some issues, but as far as the MWG was aware, no Member had been prevented from participating in the pre-Congress electronic voting on motions.

In relation to the time for internal consultation, the period for online debate had been two months, as opposed to the few hours of a Contact Group, but it was accepted that governments sometimes had more complex internal consultation procedures and that the motions process needed to take this into account.

The Congress Resolutions Committee would be interested in hearing in more detail suggestions for improving the presentation or sequencing of the motions, rather than simply listing them one by one.

Members concerned about individual motions that had been ruled as inadmissible were invited to contact the Congress Resolutions Committee directly.

The **Director General** considered that an analysis of the online debate on motions would be an interesting and very worthwhile exercise. She confirmed that the Secretariat would compile relevant data and notify Members when it was available on the IUCN portal. She noted that an email had been sent to Members on 30 August 2016 summarising the electronic vote and including a link to details of how individual Members had voted.

The **Chair-designate of the Resolutions Committee** clarified that all voting explanations received from Members prior to Congress had already been included in the motions portal. The aim was to be as transparent as possible. He recalled that under Rule 62 *septimo* of the Rules of Procedure, the Members' Assembly was required to take a decision recording the adoption of motions by electronic ballot.

Congress took the following decision [[voting record](#)]:

DECISION 3

Congress:

RECORDS the adoption of the motions listed in Document WCC-2016-1.6/3 through the electronic ballot prior to the Congress.

REQUESTS the next IUCN Council to:

- create an opportunity for IUCN Members to provide feedback on the online discussion and electronic vote on the motions prior to Congress with the objective of improving the motions process for the future; and,
- if needed, prepare amendments to the Rules of Procedure (such amendments will need to be submitted to an electronic vote by the IUCN Members prior to the launch of the 2020 Congress motions process).

The **Chair-designate of the Resolutions Committee** recalled that, by decision of the Congress Steering Committee, the deadline for the submission of new motions would be 18.30 hrs on 6 September 2016, or the end of the 2nd Sitting, whichever came later. Any new motion required at least ten co-sponsors in addition to the main sponsor and had to comply with the criteria set out in Rule 52 of the Rules of Procedure.

Motions not yet voted on, and any new motions ruled as admissible by the Congress Resolutions Committee, would be tabled for discussion in plenary and in Contact Groups. Delegates could propose amendments to any motion that was still open for debate. The best means of doing this would be through Contact Groups, but amendments could also be tabled in plenary or in writing. Written submissions would need to be made by 18.00 hrs on the day before the date that the motion was scheduled to be discussed in plenary.

The **President** thanked the **Chair-designate of the Resolutions Committee** and invited the **Chair-designate of the Governance Committee of Congress** to formally introduce the governance-related Motions.

The **Chair-designate of the Governance Committee** (Margaret Beckel) briefly summarised the main substance and schedule of Contact Groups for the six governance-related motions.

The **President** opened the floor for questions.

In response to a question from the **Tropical Resources Institute (Yale School of Forestry)**, (USA) the **Director General** confirmed that proposed amendments to the IUCN Programme 2017–2020 could be submitted by email.

In response to a question from the **Centre for Sustainable Development** (Islamic Republic of Iran), the **Chair-designate of the Congress Governance Committee** clarified that the Contact Groups would be free to discuss any issue relevant to the six governance-related motions; the Contact Groups were not restricted to discussing square-bracketed text.

Before adjourning the Sitting for lunch, the **President** noted that the completion of Agenda item 1.3, as well as Agenda item 1.8, would be deferred to the 2nd Sitting, and Agenda item 1.7 to the 4th Sitting.

2nd Sitting of the Members' Assembly

Tuesday 6 September 2016 (14:30–18.00)

The 2nd Sitting was chaired by **IUCN Vice-President Marina von Weissenberg** (Regional Councillor for West Europe).

Agenda item 1.8 – Information about the purpose and process of the Hawai'i Commitments (deferred from 1st Sitting)

The **representative of the Hawai'i Commitments Working Group of the Congress Steering Committee** (John Robinson) presented the background to the *Hawai'i Commitments*, a statement summarising key issues, challenges, aspirations, new ideas and actions arising from the rich deliberations during the Congress. The *Hawai'i Commitments* would not be a negotiated text. The term 'commitments' was being used in this instance to convey the Union's collective commitment to conservation action alongside the sense of urgency captured in the theme of the Congress '*Planet at the Crossroads*'. An interactive process, overseen by a Working Group established by the Congress Steering Committee, would be followed in the drafting of the *Hawai'i Commitments*. This would take into account notes from session rapporteurs and comments from Congress participants on draft versions of the text, which would be made available online, with clear deadlines by which contributions needed to be submitted. The Working Group was composed of two Councillors (Brendan Mackey & John Robinson), a representative of the Host Country, and two young professionals from Samoa and Solomon Islands.

The **Chair** opened the floor for comments or questions; there were no interventions.

Agenda item 2.1 – Presentation of the Draft IUCN Programme and Financial Plan 2017–2020

The **Chair** (Marina von Weissenberg) explained that the Draft IUCN Programme and Financial Plan 2017–2020 were being presented in the 2nd Sitting in order to provide Members with an overview of these crucially important documents ahead of discussions on Issues of Strategic Importance (Agenda item 2.2), so that the Assembly could take into account any issues raised in those discussions that might affect the Draft Programme and/or the Financial Plan. Substantive debate of the two documents would be held during the 6th Sitting and 8th Sitting respectively.

The **Chair** invited the **Chair-designate of the Programme Committee of Congress** (Tamar Pataridze) to the podium and requested the **Director General** to present the Draft Programme and the Financial Plan 2017–2020.

The **Director General** noted that the Draft Programme had been developed over a significant period of time, with an initial drafting workshop held in January 2015. It was evident that the Draft Programme could not list in detail the priorities of every individual Member, but instead should be seen as defining an overall working space that all Members recognised as a priority. It was also important to acknowledge that it was a Draft Programme for the Union as a whole, not just for the Secretariat, and that the work of the six Commissions and of Members would be key to its delivery. The document had been posted for online consultation between 1 June 2015 and 29 February 2016 and Members had also been able to provide input at Regional Conservation Forums. The comments received from Members and Commissions had been collated and a great deal of work had gone into addressing them.

The **Director General** handed over to the **Global Director of IUCN Policy and Programme Group** (Cyrique Sendashonga), who referred Members to Congress documents *WCC-2016-2.1-1 IUCN*

Programme 2017–2020 and *WCC-2016-2.1-1-Annex 1 IUCN Programme 2017–2020*. She explained that the Draft Programme for 2017–2020 built on the 2013–2016 Programme. This represented a very strong foundation and with a high level of ambition attached to each of its three Programme Areas. There was a need to continue responding to that high level of ambition in the new Programme but also to align fully with emerging challenges and new opportunities.

The Draft Programme 2017–2020 was organised under three Global Results ('Valuing and conserving nature'; 'Promoting and supporting effective and equitable governance of natural resources'; and 'Deploying nature-based solutions to societal challenges'), nine Sub-Results (three per Global Result) and 29 Targets, and was explicitly aligned with the SDGs and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Major improvements had been introduced with regard to monitoring implementation of the Programme, in order to capture more fully what was happening across the Union. The principal means of achieving this would be through the Project Portal. Work was being done to finalise global indicators and baselines in order to strengthen evidence for the impact of IUCN's work. The One Programme Approach would continue to be fundamental and in this spirit Members were being asked to respond, by the end of 2016, to a short survey aimed at collating intended contributions (e.g. through project implementation, financial support or in-kind support) towards each Sub-Result.

The **Chair** thanked the **Global Director of IUCN Policy and Programme Group** and handed the floor to the **Director General** to introduce the Financial Plan 2017–2020.

The **Director General** referred Members to Congress documents *WCC-2016-2.1-2 IUCN Financial Plan 2017–2020* and *WCC-2016-2.1-2-Annex 1 IUCN Financial Plan 2017–2020*. She provided context concerning the realities confronting international organisations worldwide, in particular the changing funding landscape. As a result of regional conflicts, migration and the threat of terrorism, governments were reprioritising how they spent Official Development Assistance. Unfortunately, this was resulting in conservation and environment issues moving down the order of priority for many governments. This had led to a decline in unrestricted funding as donors preferred to tie their financial support to specific deliverables. However, the Secretariat was taking steps to respond to this challenge, including through increased operational efficiency, but also by closely aligning the Draft Programme 2017–2020 with the SDGs and Aichi Biodiversity Targets and setting indicators and corresponding baselines for showing more clearly the effectiveness and impact of IUCN's work.

The **Chief Financial Officer** (Michael Davis) provided further details of the Financial Plan 2017–2020. The overall objective was to fund the Secretariat component of the Draft Programme, though it was recognised that Programme implementation would also be carried out by the Commissions and Members. Additional objectives were: to grow the project portfolio; to concentrate on regional and global programmatic approaches; and to increase involvement of Members and partners through the One Programme Approach, particularly through the growth of grant making and through IUCN's role as an implementing agency for the financing mechanisms associated with Multilateral Environmental Agreements.

During the coming four-year period the Secretariat intended to raise: CHF 51 million from Membership dues, CHF 42 million from Framework Partners, and CHF 22 million from other unrestricted funding sources, generating a total of CHF 115 million in unrestricted income, corresponding to about 20% of total income. Project funds were forecast to reach CHF 462 million and would account for approximately 80% of total income. For the period 2012–2016 the corresponding proportion of unrestricted versus restricted income was 25% : 75%. Therefore, as previously noted by the Director General, the Union was anticipating a significant decline in the proportion of unrestricted funds.

There was a need to continue leveraging information systems and technology. IUCN was in the process of implementing a global wide-area network and standardised IT infrastructure. Over the last two years, the Union's procedural framework had been strengthened through the development of an

Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) and upgrading of Project Guidelines and Standards (PGS), both of which would assist in ensuring Programme quality and control.

The **Chair-designate of the Programme Committee of Congress** indicated that the Committee's Terms of Reference charged it with considering proposed amendments to the Draft Programme and to convey corresponding observations and recommendations to the Members' Assembly. A Contact Group facilitated by **Vice-Presidents John Robinson** and **Malik Amin Aslam Khan** had been established to provide a forum for discussing proposed amendments, which needed to be submitted by in writing ahead of the Contact Group's first meeting, scheduled for 13.00 hrs on Wednesday 7 September 2016.

In response to a Point of Order raised by **Ministère de l'Environnement et du développement** (Senegal) the **Chair** advised that there would be ample opportunity for discussion of the Draft Programme and Financial Plan during forthcoming plenary Sittings of the Members' Assembly.

Agenda item 2.2 – Discussion of issues of strategic importance for the Union

The **Chair** (Marina von Weissenberg) invited the **Director General** (Inger Andersen) to explain the purpose of the agenda item.

The **Director General** commented that, while she hadn't been present personally at the time, feedback after the 2012 World Conservation Congress in Jeju had made it clear that a strategic-level conversation was needed with regard to the issues that IUCN needed to engage more deeply with. This could help inform the Union's future path. This part of the agenda did not constitute a formal process, or result in any decision, but rather was intended to be a place for the Assembly to discuss the big issues that IUCN needed to grapple with as a conservation community. Of many possible issues, Council had settled on three: the agriculture and biodiversity nexus; oceans; and building constituencies for conservation.

2.2.1 How should IUCN address the challenge of conserving nature in the face of industrial agriculture?

The **Chair** invited the keynote speaker and moderator, **Ms Ruth Richardson** – Executive Director of the Global Alliance for the Future of Food, to the podium, alongside the three panellists:

- **Mr Alexander Müller** – Lead author, TEEBAgriFood (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity for Agriculture and Food);
- **Professor Jeffrey Sachs** – SDSN/Columbia University Earth Institute; and
- **Dr. Jason Clay** – Senior Vice President of Markets and Food and Executive Director of Markets Institute at World Wildlife Fund US.

Ruth Richardson explained that she would offer some introductory thoughts, before inviting each of the panellists to contribute their own views and expertise. She would then allow time for discussion among the panellists before opening the floor to comments and questions from Members. Though time would inevitably limit the number of questions that could be addressed during the session itself, all questions submitted would be collated by the Secretariat and would inform the on-going debate post-Congress that all Members were urged to remain engaged with. As food and agriculture was often a contentious topic, she invited all present to approach the discussion in the spirit of open dialogue.

Ruth Richardson's keynote presentation revolved around the principle that the systems that had generated an interconnected web of global problems were the same systems that could provide the solutions. Caring about nature also meant needing to care about food and agriculture. She applauded IUCN for providing a space for the present discussion and underlined the need to reconcile agriculture and ecosystems. As part of this process, IUCN and the Global Alliance for the Future of Food had co-

hosted a Congress side event aimed at better understanding which opportunities could provide the most effective ways forward. Leaders in different sectors had been asked to identify the top three opportunities, or ‘pathways of influence’, in terms of food and agriculture for addressing the planet’s most critical issues, prioritising those with the greatest potential for quick movement towards positive change. The top three opportunities that had emerged were:

- Bringing together fragmented organisations and initiatives to map and analyse complex systems;
- Assessing the costs and impacts of key food systems with the aim of reforming public finance; and
- Developing transparency and traceability of local, regional, and global governance and commodity markets related to food and agriculture.

Together, these formed a suite that could provide a critical pathway to fulfil the Hawai‘i Commitments and indeed many actions were already being implemented by a plethora of organisations, as would doubtless be reflected in later discussion.

Ruth Richardson invited each of the panellists in turn to make their contributions. These are summarised below.

Alexander Müller (Lead author, TEEBAgriFood – The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity for Agriculture and Food) highlighted three key messages:

- Sustainable Development Goal #2 on eradicating hunger could be used to make a strong case for IUCN to conduct an assessment of what was needed for agriculture to become sustainable;
- IUCN needed to make the global TEEBAgriFood study a success. This widely consultative study would provide comprehensive assessments of the ‘eco-agri-food systems’ complex, including a focus on the entire agricultural value chain in terms of its multiple interactions with the state of the environment, socio-economic well-being, and human health; and
- Industrial production of food was impairing nature. IUCN Members had a critical role to play as stewards of both the genetic diversity needed to guard against climate change impacts and the ecosystem services critical for food production, such as pollination.

Jeffrey Sachs (SDSN/Columbia University Earth Institute) emphasised one point above all others, namely a linkage between the complexity of achieving sustainability in agricultural production, the lack of corresponding guidelines or metrics, and a consequent proposal for IUCN to lead the way in analytical work that was not limited to assessment but also prepared plans of action. A parallel could be seen in the work already done in the sphere of energy to shift the global system towards a low-carbon future. A similar approach for agriculture could lead to the development of integrated land-use maps that took into account environmental stresses and respected global and local boundary conditions.

Jason Clay (Senior Vice President of Markets and Food and Executive Director of Markets Institute at World Wildlife Fund US) emphasised the need to look at environmental challenges alongside economic and social issues. The conservation community had to anticipate better, looking 30–40 years ahead, to agree on the key problems and come up with innovative solutions. There was an urgent requirement for planetary metrics for habitats, biodiversity, soil, water, greenhouse gas emissions and toxicity related to agriculture, and standards for assessing trends in those metrics. The relevant SDGs contained indicators but no metrics and these would need to be developed quickly. He also highlighted the importance of addressing poverty and a lack of alternative livelihoods as drivers of environmentally damaging agriculture. Such challenges could not be solved by ecologists alone, but needed a wide range of skills and expertise. In addition, up to 90% of food production was based on ‘business as usual’ subsidies, rather than innovative, more sustainable approaches. A sustainable

future for agriculture required more efficient production, reduction of waste and, more controversially – from conventional political and business perspectives – shifts in consumption.

Ruth Richardson thanked the panellists and invited the audience to take a few minutes to discuss between themselves the main points raised by the speakers and then to begin submitting questions online. Among the questions raised by Members in this way were:

- How to balance conservation and the need to feed a growing world population?
- How to work with poverty issues and guarantee that poor people both conserve nature and have access to natural resources?
- How to mitigate the impacts of industrialised agriculture and the current system of consumption?
- What is the role of government and of civil society in implementing the actions required for sustainable agriculture to be possible?

The **panellists** responded to each of the questions in turn. Among the key points highlighted were:

- The need to treat seriously the implications of population growth in Sub-Saharan Africa to a projected four billion people by 2100 (Jeffrey Sachs);
- The importance of universal education for girls as a fundamental component of sustainable development (Jeffrey Sachs);
- Nature and ecosystems constituted the capital of the poor – without access to fertile land they were unable to feed their families. A key strategy for survival was to ensure biodiverse systems as a means of avoiding reliance on single crops – the opposite of industrial monocultures (Alexander Müller);
- The need to understand the implications of unprecedented and increasing pressures on agricultural production systems and ecosystems, especially in relation to climate change. Nature constituted the life-support system for the future of agriculture (Alexander Müller);
- The need to take action on three fronts, none of which was currently sufficient, namely: more efficient production, reduction of waste and (especially) shifting consumption. The latter was a politically inconvenient truth that required tough, science-based discussions to find a rational way forward (Jason Clay);
- Dysfunctional governments, lack of public investment and irresponsibility in the private sector meant that there was a looming crisis for which, as yet, there was no roadmap or goal-based planning. Scientists, agriculture experts and institutions such as FAO, UNEP and IUCN needed to step up and take the lead (Jeffrey Sachs);
- The emphasis given to reducing crop production costs without adequately considering externalities such as pollution, biodiversity loss and health impacts, and the consequent need for a shift away from the paradigm of ‘cheap food’. This required a new multidisciplinary approach to avoid silos and reduce the dominance of vested interests (Alexander Müller);
- The most hopeful examples were those in which private-sector companies and civil society producers were sharing information on impacts and mitigation investments to find sustainable ways forward. The salmon farming industry was a good case in point. Where industry and civil society worked effectively together, governments tended to follow, but would not themselves take the lead (Jason Clay);

Ruth Richardson observed that this was just the beginning of an extensive dialogue and that there was a clear need for a global alliance on this strategic issue. She summarised the main conclusions of the panel as follows:

- The debate should not focus only on industrial agriculture, but rather all agriculture/food systems in their full complexity;
- The issue was urgent;

- There was still a need to develop road maps for change – at sufficient scale and speed – to guide countries towards the transition to sustainable agriculture systems; and
- IUCN needed to take a leadership role in responding to the challenge and showing the way forward.

2.2.2 How should IUCN address the challenge of preserving the health of the world's oceans?

The **Director General** observed that this strategic issue had already been a major theme of the Congress, with some 175 sessions on ocean issues during the Forum. The present debate would consist of two panels addressing the specific topics of plastics and fisheries respectively. The idea was to explore what IUCN needed to do as a Union to promote the urgent action required.

The first panel, addressing the subject of oceans and plastics was introduced and moderated by **Ms Lauren Wenzel**, Director at NOAA National Marine Protected Areas Center. The panellists were:

- **Mr Pierre Yves Cousteau** – Marine Programme Officer at IUCN and President of Cousteau Divers;
- **Mr Jeroen Dagevos** – Head of Programs at Plastic Soup Foundation; and
- **Ms Birguy Lamizana-Diallo** – Programme Officer, UNEP – Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities and Vice-Chair of the IUCN Commission of Ecosystem Management.

Lauren Wenzel commented on the opportunities afforded by the setting of the Congress in the Hawaiian Islands for reflecting on the impacts of plastics on the oceans. She observed that the concept of the 'plastic economy' was widely used to describe the world we lived in and that if we did not change the path we were on, there would be more plastic than fish in the oceans by 2050. This had profound implications for people and nature alike. She invited Members to submit their questions online. Among those highlighted were:

- Why do we not consider plastic an international problem like climate change?
- How can we engage business in addressing the problem?
- Can you address the issue of microplastic in household items and can we have an international ban?

Pierre Yves Cousteau underlined that the chemicals in plastics, including biocides and other toxins, entered the food chain, impacting not only marine fauna, but also people. He also stressed that the epidemic of plastic in the oceans was just a symptom; the real problem was associated with the concept of externalities and a lack of proper accounting for the footprint of plastics.

Jeroen Dagevos presented the 'Beat the Microbead' campaign recently launched to influence the cosmetics industry. He highlighted the power of society to drive changes in markets but also the need to ensure that industry was brought on board as part of the solution and not seen only as the problem. For example, fashion and washing machine manufacturers and retailers could play a key role in addressing the problem of microbeads.

Birguy Lamizana-Diallo emphasised the global nature of the problem and the need to address it through partnerships focused on enforcement of existing laws and regulations and changes in behaviour by both producers and consumers. Education had a key role to play.

Drawing the panel to a close, **Lauren Wenzel** concluded that IUCN could play a critical role in many of the areas identified for action, including:

- Promoting international collaboration and engaging new partners for business system innovation;

- Promoting effective education and awareness raising so that consumers were better informed about the impacts of the goods they bought and applied pressure to markets to switch to sustainable production;
- Engaging governments to drive innovation and change through regulation;
- Ensuring proper accounting for the environmental externalities of plastics.

The second panel on oceans was moderated by **Dr Sylvia A. Earle** the renowned former Chief Scientist at NOAA and National Geographic Society Explorer. The panellists were:

- **Dr Nilufer Oral** – Member of the Faculty of Law at Istanbul Bilgi University, Istanbul, Turkey and is Deputy Director of the Istanbul Bilgi Marine Research Center for the Law of the Sea;
- **Dr Serge M. Garcia** – Chair of the Fisheries Expert Group of IUCN's Commission on Ecosystem Management; and
- **Dr Sebastian Troëng** – Scientific Director for Caribbean Conservation Corporation and member of the IUCN SSC Marine Turtle Specialist Group.

Sylvia Earle stressed the need to address illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) exploitation of marine resources but also drew attention to a second 'I' – the immoral component of these activities that were threatening the future of the oceans. She highlighted the intrinsic value of marine wildlife – not simply its commodity value – and the need to shift from a commercial perspective to a more comprehensive approach. Such a shift had already occurred in relation to whales. They had previously been valued purely as meat or barrels of oil, but were now seen by most of the world as fellow citizens. A similar change in thinking was needed for the full range of ocean services, as reflected in the emerging concept of 'blue carbon' recognising that most of the global carbon cycle was anchored in the oceans.

Nilufer Oral emphasised from her perspective as a lawyer, that IUU fishing constituted a crime against humanity and livelihoods, as it was emptying the oceans. Unfortunately, international law had been formed around the notion of the 'freedom of the seas' at a time when the oceans and their resources were considered infinite. This was now seen to be a misapprehension and there was a need to change the legal paradigm. She highlighted the important role that IUCN could play given the Union's powerful network of legal experts and other specialists.

Serge M. Garcia spoke of the urgent need to assist developing countries in managing their marine resources more sustainably. He referred to the collaborative work conducted by the IUCN Fisheries Expert Group, together with CBD and FAO, to address issues related to destructive fishing practices, but stressed that much remained to be done to enhance coordination and collaboration for improved fisheries management.

Sebastian Troëng considered that there was a need to re-examine, sector-by-sector, the way in which the problems of the oceans were defined; otherwise we would be stuck with the same failed solutions. He highlighted the importance of creating enabling conditions for the scaling-up of solutions and the role of effective communications in engaging society at large.

Sylvia Earle considered that the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress had the potential to become a turning point in the conservation of oceans. She read out a number of the questions and comments submitted online by Members. These included the following major topics:

- The role of education in fisheries management and the importance of youth engagement;
- The consequences of losing top predators in marine food chains; and
- The role of marine protected areas for maintaining fish populations.

To conclude the session, **Sylvia Earle** introduced **Mr Nainoa Thompson**, Navigator and President of the Polynesian Voyaging Society, who made an inspiring presentation, using the example of

traditional knowledge of navigating by the signs of nature, to stress the importance of recovering the human connections with our history, world and nature. He voiced his conviction that scientists and indigenous people had to work together in pursuit of a new human culture, defined not by race or nationalism, but by caring, compassion, *Aloha* and love.

Agenda item 1.3 – Appointment of the Resolutions, Finance and Audit, Governance, and Programme Committees of the Congress (continued from 1st Sitting)

The **Chair** (Marina von Weissenberg) invited **Aroha Mead**, on behalf of the **Congress Steering Committee**, to summarise the Steering Committee's deliberations following the close of the 1st Sitting.

Aroha Mead reported that the Steering Committee had received 13 additional nominations and had decided to include one youth representative in the list of names proposed for membership of each of the four Committees.

The **Chair** referred the Assembly to the Congress Steering Committee's revised proposal, as displayed on screens in the plenary hall.

Congress took the following decision [[voting record](#)]:

DECISION 4

Congress APPROVES the membership of the following Committees of the 2016 World Conservation Congress:

Congress Resolutions Committee:

Simon STUART (UK), Chair
Mamadou DIALLO (Senegal)
Michael HOSEK (Czech Republic)
Jesca E. OSUNA (Uganda)
Ramón PEREZ-GIL (Mexico)
Ana TIRAA (Cook Islands)
Bertrand DE MONTMOLLIN (Switzerland)
Ana DI PANGRACIO (Argentina)
Vivek MENON (India)
Denise ANTOLINI (USA)
Sarah CHILES (South Africa)

Congress Finance and Audit Committee:

Spencer THOMAS, Chair (Grenada)
Patrick DE HENEY (Switzerland)
Samira Omar ASEM (Kuwait)
Marco Vinicio CEREZO BLANDÓN (Guatemala)
Hilde EGGERMONT (Belgium)
Pauline NANTONGO (Uganda)
Suzanne CASE (USA)
Mohammad Aatish KHAN (India)

Congress Governance Committee:

Margaret BECKEL (Canada), Chair
Andrew BIGNELL (New Zealand)
Jenny GRUENBERGER (Bolivia)
Javed JABBAR (Pakistan)

Ehab EID (Jordan)
Lider SUCRE (Panama)
Tim JOHNS (USA)
Sydah NAIGAGA (EMLI) (Uganda)

Congress Programme Committee:

Tamar PATARIDZE, Chair (Georgia)
Jonathan HUGHES (UK)
Ann Katrin GARN BLOM (Denmark)
Harriet DAVIES-MOSTERT (South Africa)
Miguel Gonzalo ANDRADE CORREA (Colombia)
Christopher DUNN (USA)
Sahaj Man SHRESTHA (Nepal)

3rd Sitting of the Members' Assembly – 2016 World Conservation Congress Award Ceremony

Tuesday 6 September 2016 (20:30–22.30)

The Award Ceremony commenced with a musical performance by IUCN's Goodwill Ambassador, **Iruka** (Japan).

In his welcoming remarks, the **President** looked forward to a celebration of the achievements not only of the global IUCN network, but also the individuals who had made a real difference in their communities, countries and internationally, and those who had left a lasting legacy for conservation. The Union would also pay tribute to the unsung heroes working on the frontlines of conservation, often at great personal risk, and would recognise the quiet achievers and dedicated professionals who contributed significant time and effort, often as volunteers, to advance IUCN's mission.

John C. Phillips Memorial Medal presentation

The **President** invited the **Director General** to present the award.

The **Director General** recalled that the John C. Phillips Memorial Medal had been presented at every IUCN Assembly and Congress since 1963. The awardee was selected by a jury composed of five serving members of the Governance and Constituency Committee of the IUCN Council. Distinguished recipients of the Award had included His Royal Highness Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, Mrs Indira Gandhi, His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said of Oman, Professor E. O. Wilson, Dr Luc Hoffmann and Sir David Attenborough, each of whom had contributed their vision, wisdom and perseverance to furthering the global conservation cause. She had great pleasure in announcing that the esteemed recipient of the John C. Phillips Memorial Medal in 2016 was Dr Maria Tereza Jorge Pádua, in recognition of outstanding achievements for the conservation of nature in Brazil, often at great personal risk.

Expressing deep gratitude for the award, **Dr Maria Tereza Jorge Pádua** reflected that:

“When I started, there was nothing in terms of protection for the Amazon or the Atlantic Forest. We did not have helicopters, satellites, computers, GPS or cell phones in those days and it was difficult to work in the field. Brazil was lagging behind in wildlife conservation. I thank IUCN for inspiring us. It is a true honour for me to serve nature and my country. Every single day I'm more than ever convinced that the only way to serve humanity is by protecting nature”.

Presentation of the Harold Jefferson Coolidge Memorial Medal

The **President** observed that this award was presented to a conservation professional who had made outstanding contributions to the conservation of nature and natural resources. The Medal had first been awarded in 2008 in honour of one of the founders of IUCN and the awardee was selected by a jury consisting of five serving members of the Governance and Constituency Committee of the IUCN Council and three eminent conservation leaders. He invited **Russ Mittermeier, former Councillor and former Vice-President of IUCN**, to present the award.

Russ Mittermeier recalled that the Harold ('Hal') Jefferson Coolidge Memorial Medal carried the name of one of the great pioneers of nature conservation. It was therefore fitting that it was being presented to another pioneer and good friend of Hal Coolidge's, Lee Talbot, an ecologist and geographer with over 60 years work experience in 134 countries. Lee was a former Director General, Vice-President and Regional Councillor of IUCN; adviser to US Presidents Ford, Nixon and Carter; Head of Environmental Sciences at the Smithsonian Institution; and an eminent explorer and field biologist.

Lee Talbot expressed his appreciation and deep gratitude. Hal Coolidge had been a close personal friend and mentor, but moreover was the father of international conservation. Beginning in 1930, he had laid the groundwork for IUCN including the Commission structure that still shaped the Union today. It was thanks to Hal that his own association with IUCN had started:

"In 1954, I became the first IUCN associate in the Brussels office, which was located in the basement of the natural history museum, with only four dedicated staff. It was a dream job for a young ecologist and I carried out fieldwork in many countries. Since then IUCN and its impact have grown immensely. Sixty years ago, our tiny staff took less than half-an-hour to fold chairs set out for the General Assembly. Compare that with today! I am proud to be associated with IUCN. My work has been done in partnership with my wonderful conservation wife Marty. She deserves all the credit. Hal always insisted that it was his idea that Marty and I should get together and spend our lives working together. I've been asked if receiving this medal is the pinnacle of my career. Well, no. A pinnacle is the top and there's nowhere else to go. I've got a lot of work left to do. I regard the medal as a marvellous and incredible honour and I hope it will enable me to become even more effective in my on-going conservation work in the future. Thank you all very much."

Presentation of IUCN Honorary Membership

The **President** recalled that Honorary Membership was dedicated to the recognition of those individuals who had made exceptional contributions to furthering the goals of the Union and had been bestowed on deserving individuals since the establishment of IUCN in 1948. He had pleasure in welcoming **former IUCN Director General Julia Marton-Lefèvre** to present the awards.

Julia Marton-Lefèvre had great pleasure in announcing that Honorary Membership was being conferred on **Ashok Khosla** (India) and **Valli Mohammed Moosa** (South Africa) in recognition of their many years of outstanding service to IUCN in a wide range of capacities, notably as Presidents of the Union during the periods 2008–2012 and 2004–2008 respectively.

At the invitation of the **President**, **Congress** endorsed the conferral of Honorary Membership by acclamation.

DECISION 5

Congress ENDORSES the conferral of Honorary Membership on:

Mr Ashok Khosla

Mr Valli Mohammed Moosa

Receiving a certificate and sculpture **Ashok Khosla** said:

“It has been a long journey and some 40 years since the Kinshasa General Assembly. I was on Council for about 35 of those years. It has also been a wonderful journey with moments of huge discovery and inspiration. I received gifts of knowledge, insight and partnership from IUCN and I would like to return some of the gifts that I have learnt elsewhere; gifts of thought that can hopefully be of some use in the coming decades. Conservation is the heartland, the bedrock of IUCN and must stay the raison d’être of the Union. Yet while we will continue to work in the heartland, we need to work with others and get them to understand the impacts of their activities. Poverty eradication is one of the biggest steps that can be taken, alongside reducing consumption of the rich. Civil society needs to be brought back to its full strength and we need a formal IUCN body to bring young people into the work of the Union. I don’t see a future for IUCN if it’s going to be dependent on hand-outs. It is time for the organisation to explore ways in which its incredible intellectual assets can be monetised by becoming a bit of business. It will be important in the coming intersessional period to give clear thought on how to do this.”

Honorary Membership was accepted on behalf of Valli Moosa by **Ms Skumsa Moncotywa**, Chief Director, Department of Environmental Affairs (South Africa), who read out a message in which Mr Moosa stated:

“IUCN is the world’s principal authority on biodiversity and nature conservation. It has over many decades mobilised and marshalled the efforts of thousands of the best scientists and other thinkers for the benefit of nature. It is uniquely representative of the world’s human diversity by bringing under one umbrella governments, conservation authorities, scientific institutions and a variety of NGOs. Its very composition says to the world that protecting the environment is everyone’s business. The World Conservation Congress has no peer in the global calendar. I have always found it to be stimulating, educating and inspiring. I regret that circumstances have made it impossible for me to join you this year. It is with immense pride that I receive Honorary Membership of this great organisation. I wish to express my deepest gratitude. Please be assured that I remain a loyal friend and ally of the IUCN.”

Ambassador Masahiko Horie (IUCN Regional Councillor for South and East Asia) introduced a performance by Iruka of the song ‘We Love You Planet’ written specially for IUCN.

Presentation of IUCN Commission Awards

Commission on Ecosystem Management Awards

The **Chair of the Commission on Ecosystem Management, Piet Wit** observed that Dr Luc Hoffmann had recently passed away. He invited **Lynda Mansson, Director of the MAVA Foundation** to present a tribute to Dr Hoffmann.

Lynda Mansson said:

“Luc Hoffman was the founder of the MAVA Foundation and in July we lost one of the great conservationists of our time. He died at the age of 93 after a long and fulfilling life devoted to the world of conservation. A Ugandan proverb says that ‘patience is the mother of a beautiful child’. It is fair to say he had many beautiful children. He was devoted to the Camargue, the Banc d’Arguin, Doñana, and the Prespa Lakes. Luc was more interested in conservation on the ground than conservation politics. He was one of the first to recognise the importance of mobilising large-scale support and gave us WWF and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. He was the driving force behind Wetlands International, FIBA (Fondation Internationale du Banc d’Arguin), PRCM (Partenariat Régional pour la Conservation de la zone côtière et Marine en Afrique de l’Ouest) and many others and one of the creators of IUCN. Luc, the man, I would sum up as generous with his resources, his heart, his knowledge, his mind, his time and more. He was passionate, young at heart and inspired loyalty to those close to him. He supported young conservationists. But he was so much more than a

donor. He rolled up his sleeves and got to work, being more at home in the mud than in the drawing rooms of celebrities. It is an Ethiopian saying that 'the fool speaks and the wise man listens'. Luc was not much of a talker and hated to be the centre of attention. When he spoke, he did so with wisdom, intelligence and modesty. He would have loved to be here in Hawai'i. He believed in building from the ground up. No task was too difficult when we attacked it together. Luc's legacy lives not only through the MAVA Foundation but through the hundreds and thousands of conservationists that he inspired in his lifetime. Thank you Luc; thanks for your generosity, your action. You will be fondly remembered and greatly missed."

The **Chair of the Commission on Ecosystem Management** announced that the 2016 **Luc Hoffmann Award** was being awarded to **Dr Dhrubajyoti Ghosh** (India) in recognition of his work to harness the ecosystem services performed by wetlands to treat urban wastewater and provide alternative livelihoods in the city of Kolkata. Illness, from which he was now recovering, had prevented Dr Ghosh from travelling to Hawai'i, but the award would be accepted on his behalf by **Ajanta Dey**, who introduced a short video message of thanks from Dr Ghosh.

The **Chair of the Commission on Ecosystem Management** announced that the 2016 **CEM Young Professional Award** was being presented to **Dr Nick Murray**, researcher at the Ecosystem Science Centre at the University of New South Wales, Australia. **Dr Murray** thanked IUCN for the welcome, openness and inspiration it had afforded to him as a young researcher.

Species Survival Commission Awards

The **Chair of the Species Survival Commission** (Simon Stuart) recalled that the SSC awards had already been presented during the SSC Leaders Conference in 2015, but it was appropriate to acknowledge the recipients in the context of the Congress.

The SSC **George Rabb award for Conservation Innovation** had been established in honour of Dr George Rabb, Chair of SSC from 1989 to 1996, for outstanding innovation and creativity in species conservation in the context of the SSC. It was presented to individuals in recognition of delivering transformational advances in conservation theory and practice. The 2016 recipients were:

- **Mr Michael Hoffmann** – In recognition of his leadership on developing novel means to measure the impact and success of conservation on a global scale, as well as his inspirational leadership of the IUCN Red List Committee, and his growing influence as one of the most articulate advocates for species conservation.
- **Dr Penny Langhammer** – In recognition of her exceptional leadership of the process to develop a consistent and scientifically robust global standard for identifying important sites for the persistence of biodiversity, drawing together multiple different stakeholders and scientific disciplines

The **Peter Scott Award for Conservation Merit** was the senior SSC award dating back to 1984. It was a lifetime achievement award honouring Sir Peter Scott, Chair of SSC from 1963 to 1980 and was presented to individuals in recognition of exceptional service and leadership to species conservation over many years through their work with the SSC. The 2016 recipients were:

- **HE Mohammed Al Bowardi** – In recognition of his inspirational leadership of conservation in the United Arab Emirates over many years, including as Managing Director and board member of the Environment Agency Abu Dhabi, and as Deputy Chairman of the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund and the International Fund for Houbara Conservation.
- **Dr Holly Dublin** – In recognition of her untiring commitment to species conservation in general and to the SSC in particular for over 30 years, including as Chair of the SSC and of the SSC African Elephant Specialist Group.

- **Mr Tom Milliken** – In recognition of his unrelenting work in TRAFFIC and SSC over three decades to understand and find solutions to the problems of illegal trade in ivory and rhino horn, including his exceptional leadership of the Elephant Trade Information Service.
- **Mr Widodo Ramono** – In recognition of his lifetime's work to save the Javan and Sumatran Rhinos from extinction, from his days in the field in Ujung Kulon National Park, to his exemplary commitment as a senior Indonesian government official, to his current leadership of the Indonesian Rhino Foundation.
- **Dr Mark Stanley Price** – In recognition of his dedication to the SSC over four decades, including as the founder and first Chair of the Reintroduction Specialist Group, as the driving force for developing the 1995 and 2012 IUCN Reintroduction Guidelines, and his current leadership of the Species Conservation Planning Sub-Committee.

Commission on Education and Communication Awards

The **Acting Chair of the Commission on Education and Communication**, Nancy Colleton presented the **CEC Chair's Award**, for life-long commitment to CEC to **Dr Juliane Zeidler** for dedicated commitment to the Commission, in particular for guiding work on the #NatureForAll initiative.

The **CEC Young Professionals Award** was presented to:

- **Miss Nguyen Ngoc Bao Linh** for her outstanding contributions in raising awareness about the plight of pangolins and catalysing innovative conservation actions for them in both Asia and Central Africa.
- **Dr Diogo Verissimo**, the Chair of the Conservation Marketing Working Group of the Society for Conservation Biology and founding member of the European Social Marketing Association, in recognition of his work to harness the power of marketing tools and concepts to change how people relate to nature.

World Commission on Protected Areas Awards

The **Chair of the World Commission on Protected Areas, Kathy MacKinnon**: recalled that the Fred Packard Award for outstanding service to protected areas had been presented to seven individuals during the 2014 World Parks Congress in Sydney. The recipients were:

- **Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend**
- **Peter Cochrane**
- **Alan Latourelle**
- **Harvey Locke**
- **Cláudio C. Maretti**
- **The Rangers of Virunga National Park, Democratic Republic of the Congo**
- **Widodo Sukohadi Ramono**

The Commission was now conferring the **Kenton Miller Award for Innovation in Protected Areas Management**, in the presence of Kenton Miller's daughter, **Natasha Miller**, to **Ashiq Ahmed Khan**, who had devoted nearly three-and-a-half decades to biodiversity conservation in Pakistan. He was being recognised in particular for his innovative approach to co-management.

Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy Awards

The award recipients were announced by the **Chair of CEESP, Aroha Mead**.

The **CEESP Award for Meritorious Research** was presented to:

- **Dr. Eleanor Sterling**, American Natural History Museum, USA – For outstanding research bridging science and social science.
- **Dr Fikret Berkes**, University of Manitoba, Canada – In recognition of his work to inspire three generations of scholars and his contribution to a paradigm shift in natural resources management.

The **CEESP Award for Indigenous Biocultural Conservation** was presented to **Asociación Sotz'il, Centro Para la Investigación y Planificación del Desarrollo Maya** (Sotz'il Centre for Maya Research and Development), for outstanding work on Mayan development activities in Guatemala.

The **CEESP Award for Outstanding Woman as an Agent of Environmental and Social Change** was presented to **Lorena Aguilar**, Senior Gender Advisor of IUCN, who had developed gender strategies for UNEP and UNCCD, supported 14 governments to integrate climate change and gender, and authored more than 30 books on gender development and environment.

World Commission on Environment Law

The **WCEL Wolfgang Burhenne Award**, was presented by **the Chair of WCEL, Antonio Benjamin** and **Justice Michael Wilson**, who announced the laureate as **Professor Nicholas Robinson**.

Expressing the deep honour he felt in receiving the award, **Professor Robinson** noted that this was the first IUCN General Assembly or Congress that Wolfgang Burhenne had not attended since 1948. He reflected on how far environmental law and WCEL itself had come since those early days and commented on the moving nature of the Award Ceremony that had in various ways brought together many of the most influential figures in the history of the Union, highlighting synergies between them.

Drawing the Awards Ceremony to a close, the **President** congratulated all of the laureates and thanked the Commission Chairs and other friends and colleagues who had made the evening such a special one.

4th Sitting of the Members' Assembly

Wednesday 7 September 2016 (08.30–13.00)

The 4th Sitting was chaired by **IUCN Vice-President John Robinson** (Regional Councillor for North America).

Agenda item 1.7 – Elections: Information by the Election Officer about the election procedures (deferred from 1st Sitting)

The **Chair** introduced the **Election Officer**, Justice Michael D. Wilson.

The **Election Officer** presented the schedule of candidate presentations and elections for the positions of Regional Councillors, Commission Chairs, Treasurer and President. He explained in detail the practicalities of the electronic voting system, responded to Members' questions and presided over a 'mock election' exercise to confirm that the system had been well understood and was operating correctly. He noted that the system was programmed to take account of proxy votes, including the additional voting time that might be required by the few Members holding more than five proxies.

Following a number of requests from the floor, the **Chair** asked the **Election Officer** to provide an opportunity during the lunch break to enable additional familiarisation with the voting equipment for those Members that required this.

Progress Report from the Chair of the Congress Resolutions Committee

The **Chair** invited the **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** to present an update on the motions process.

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** (Simon Stuart) reported that the Committee had received ten new motions by the end of the 2nd Sitting, the deadline that had been established by the Steering Committee. Following the criteria defined in Rules 52 and 53 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress, the Committee had decided to accept six of the new motions, to reject three others and to refer one to the Programme Committee of Congress as a potential amendment to the Draft Programme 2017–2020. Members of the Resolutions Committee had declared conflicts of interest where relevant and had recused themselves from decisions on the corresponding motions.

The six new motions accepted by the Committee were as follows:

- 100 – *Two dams on the Santa Cruz River in Argentina: their impact on an irreplaceable ecosystem and on the hooded grebe (Podiceps gallardoi) population, a Critically Endangered species endemic to Argentina*
- 101 – *South Atlantic Whale Sanctuary*
- 102 – *Urging the Congress of the Republic of Peru to shelve permanently the bill that proposes the construction of a road that will affect the Alto Purús National Park and other areas*
- 103 – *Vicuña (Vicugna vicugna) conservation and the illegal trade in its fibre*
- 104 – *Support for increased conservation effort for Hawai'i's threatened birds*
- 105 – *Support for peace and nature in Colombia*

Proposals for new motions on the following topics had been rejected for not meeting the required criteria of being both new and urgent.

- *Conservation in the South China Sea*¹ – We felt that this motion did not bring in new evidence. It referred to new events that happened in relation to rulings of the International Court of Arbitration and some other events, but related. The subject of the motion did not to us appear to be new, though we could see that it was urgent. We felt it did not meet the criteria and so we rejected this one.
- *Strategic arts approach to enhance engagement around threatened species and ecosystem conservation*² – This topic was neither new nor urgent and the proposed motion had therefore been rejected. However, since the operative section did not require a Resolution of Congress in order to be implemented, the text had been forwarded to the Chair of the Commission on Education and Communication for consideration.
- *Founding of a World Environment Organisation*³ – Insufficient information had been provided in order for the Resolutions Committee to determine whether the subject of the motion was new or urgent. The Committee had therefore been unable to accept it.

¹ The proposed motion requested IUCN Commissions to study the prospects for establishing extensive marine protected areas in the South China Sea and recommended that all States suspend exploitation of natural resources, pending the study of how to establish marine protected areas in the region.

² This proposal requested the Director General to form a cross-cutting task group to examine in more detail the opportunities for arts engagement at a strategic level as a means of achieving IUCN's objectives.

³ This proposal sought endorsement for the founding of a World Environment Organisation that would focus on achieving legally recognised expansion of the environmental commons beyond those adopted by UNEP (Antarctica, High Seas, Atmosphere, and Outer Space), to include freshwater, biodiversity and the special biodiversity of deep sea beds, soils, and forests.

A proposed motion requesting IUCN to develop a strategy for the conservation of freshwater biodiversity had been referred to the Programme Committee of Congress, for that Committee to consider as a potential amendment to the Draft Programme.

Under the Rules of Procedure sponsors of rejected motions had the right to appeal against the decision of the Resolutions Committee. The deadline for such appeals had been set by the Steering Committee at 13.00 hrs on Wednesday 7 September 2016, or the end of the 4th Sitting, whichever was later.

The **Chair** opened the floor for comments or questions.

Green Line (Lebanon) was concerned that a motion submitted by Members from West Asia, ahead of the deadline, had not featured in the list of new motions presented.

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** invited **Green Line** to follow up directly with the Resolutions Committee.

In response to questions from **Nigerian Environmental Study Action Team** (Nigeria) the **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** confirmed that country-specific motions were currently considered in exactly the same way as other motions. However Members would be able to suggest modifications to the motions process during the post-Congress consultation period. It would be logistically impossible to avoid scheduling some Contact Groups for motions on Thursday 8 September, but every effort would be made to minimise the impact on delegate excursions.

In reply to the **International Council for Environmental Law**, the **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** asked for the understanding of Members that in the interests of time and the need to make the most efficient use of Congress Secretariat resources, there were no formal minutes available from the meeting of the Resolutions Committee.

Following an enquiry from **Fundación Futuro Latinoamericano** (Ecuador), **Sonia Peña Moreno** (IUCN Secretariat focal point for the Congress Resolutions Committee) confirmed reception of a proposal for an amendment to the IUCN Programme.

Responding to the **Ministry of Housing, Territorial Planning and Environment** (Uruguay), the **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** recalled that, due to budgetary considerations, Contact Groups did not have simultaneous interpretation, but that Secretariat staff and other colleagues were normally able to facilitate communication.

Agenda item 4.1 – Discussion of issues of strategic importance for the Union (continuation from 2nd Sitting, agenda item 2.2)

4.1.1 How should IUCN address the challenge of building constituencies for nature

This panel was moderated by **Miguel Pellerano**, **Vice-President of IUCN** (Regional Councillor for Meso and South America), who introduced the six panellists:

- **Kobie Brand**, Global Coordinator: Cities Biodiversity Center and Regional Director ICLEI Africa;
- **Malik Amin Aslam Khan**, former Minister of State for Environment of Pakistan, Vice-President of IUCN (Regional Councillor for South and East Asia), member of International Advisory Council for Eco-Forum Global (China);
- **Margaret Otieno**, CEO of Wildlife Clubs of Kenya (WCK);
- **Ramiro Batzin**, Executive Director of Association Sotz'il (Guatemala), an indigenous peoples' representative and himself a Maya Kaqchikel;

- **Nizar Hani**, Lead Advisor, Ministry of Environment of Lebanon, and manager of Al-Shouf Cedar Nature Reserve; and
- **Roberto Vides**, Director of Foundation for the Conservation of the Chiquitano Forest (FCBC, Bolivia).

Kobie Brand spoke on the topic of cities as a constituency. ICLEI encouraged cities to connect, share and learn from one another. Fast-growing cities were facing more directly and more rapidly the challenges of sustainability. Collectively, cities could strengthen and enable national commitments and achievements on sustainability, feeding into Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) and contributing to international targets. Cities were also knowledge hubs and early adopters; for example, in terms of moving towards carbon neutrality, enabling green procurement, or including technologies for sustainability in 'smart cities'. Motion 28 on *Incorporating urban dimensions of conservation into the work of IUCN*, which had already been adopted by e-voting, would serve to mainstream urban issues in the Union's future work.

Malik Amin Aslam Khan spoke about the relationship between the public and private sector with regard to implementation of green initiatives. A green agenda had been developed by one of Pakistan's political parties with the support of IUCN. The main challenge was in bridging the gap to translate policy into projects through implementation on the ground. This goal was successfully realised in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, but required changing the mind-set of policy makers, provincial programmes and other stakeholders. Implementing projects included expansion of National Parks, increasing use of green energy and extending forest cover in the Province. As a consequence of building these aims into public budgets, expenditure on environment grew ten-fold over a ten-year period. Numerous jobs were created and the private sector followed the public investment lead. IUCN facilitated global outreach for the programme, linking it with international conventions and initiatives, such as the Bonn Challenge, which created a sense of pride in the Province. At least ten IUCN members were involved in the project, which expanded IUCN's horizons in the Province and helped it to link with new constituencies.

Margaret Otieno addressed the topic of youth and environment. Having citizens that were knowledgeable on science and potential solutions was critical to tackling current and future environmental problems globally. Wildlife Clubs of Kenya (WCK) worked with primary and secondary schools, with colleges and with youth outside of school, providing the opportunity and advantage of an environmental education. WCK operated a range of activities and incentives to facilitate contact between youth and nature, among them free access to National Parks, provision of materials for teachers, organising of city and coastal clean-ups, and facilitation of schools to grow trees. A mobile education unit allowed outreach to all parts of the country, including remote rural areas. As a result, 90% of individuals currently engaged in conservation in Kenya reported having found their conservation path through membership of KWC. Half of the country's population was below the age of 25. Youth gained a voice through KWC and understood the implications of environmental degradation, hunting and poaching. Empowering youth had an impact for a lifetime and the example of KWC was one that could be replicated globally.

Ramiro Batzin spoke from the perspective of indigenous peoples, who considered nature as Mother Earth. Biodiversity was a balance; a whole in which all of us were part, and not separated elements. Sotz'il provided a model for men and women, based on the principles and cosmological values of the Mayan culture, so that they could continue to apply their own ways and traditional knowledge to their land. IUCN was making progress, through its activities and resolutions, to strengthen the participation of indigenous people. However, there were still challenges in implementing the recognition of indigenous people's rights, including Free, Prior and Informed Consent in relation to land, natural resources and governance. IUCN should promote a rights-based approach to conservation, incorporating this into the IUCN Programme and implanting the Promise of Sydney. Field activities and local actions were also important and it was necessary to strengthen the relationship between international, national and local actions. He drew attention to two relevant Congress motions, namely motion 88 *System of categories for indigenous collective management areas in Central America*,

which had already been adopted by e-voting, and governance-related motion B *Including indigenous peoples' organisations in the structure of the Union* due for discussion at a future Sitting of the Members' Assembly.

Nizar Hani spoke about working with local communities. The Al Shouf Reserve covered 5% of Lebanese territory, including 15% of the cedar forest, and supported many threatened species. The Reserve was managed through local communities, including municipalities, environmental NGOs, and biodiversity experts, under the umbrella of the Ministry of Environment. Engagement of local communities – a major priority – was achieved by focusing on benefits for those communities, such as ecotourism, rural development, and ecosystem restoration. For example, to reduce forest fire risk, thinning and cleaning of oak and pine forest was carried out in the buffer zone, where human activities were permitted. This harvested wood was shredded and mixed to produce fuel briquettes. The economic value of Al Shouf Reserve was estimated to be USD 19 million per year, derived mostly from water services, carbon sequestration, tourism and biomass. The Reserve supported hundreds of jobs for women, youth, farmers, beekeepers, tourism operators and others. The operational budget was less than USD 1 million per year, which translated into a return of USD 19 in benefits for every dollar invested. Local communities knew how to manage their territories more than anyone else. Fostering capacities of local communities and authorities, giving them full responsibility, ensuring a direct financial mechanism free of bureaucracy, and allowing the community to be profitable and proud of their protected area, resulted in very effective and practical conservation.

Roberto Vides addressed the broad topic of faith, religion, spirituality and conservation of nature. Religious faith sometimes generated a gap between people and nature, but it could also build ties. The majority of the world's population acknowledged or practised a religion and religious leaders had political clout, as demonstrated during the Paris Climate Change Summit. Recent studies by the Universities of Barcelona and Cancun had demonstrated sustainable practices based on and inspired by religious texts. Religions could help close the gap with nature, in particular by scientists and religious leaders contributing together to decision making. IUCN should focus on generating a space for dialogue along these lines, showcasing best practice in the religion/conservation nexus and building on the progress already made by stakeholders in recent years.

The **Panel** discussed questions submitted online by Members.

With regard to 'biophilia cities', **Kobie Brand** considered that cities were showing leadership and exploring new initiatives to learn from nature, such as through the use of bio-mimicry. IUCN could provide a platform to develop partnerships between local NGOs, universities and city leaders. A smart way to engage cities constituencies might be through city associations and networks, such as Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN) and others.

On the topic of youth engagement, **Margaret Otieno** underlined the importance of developing best-practice guidelines to engage effectively with high-school youth. **Malik Amin Aslam Khan** explained the involvement of youth and university students in the implementation of the 'Billion Trees' project in Pakistan through the raising of tree seedlings in small nurseries, planting and aftercare, which provided both experience of nature and youth employment. **Nizar Hani** drew attention to the skills of youth in the fields of IT and social media and the contribution that these could make to conservation.

Regarding indigenous systems of agriculture, **Ramiro Batzin** observed that these were fundamental in terms of both food security and conservation of natural resources. Traditional knowledge was helping implementation of modern technology, but a major challenge related to knowledge transfer from traditional to modern and vice versa. **Nizar Hani** highlighted the work being undertaken in his region to restore former terraces using native species with high economic value.

On the issue of indigenous people as a distinct constituency within IUCN, **Ramiro Batzin** supported the recognition of indigenous people through their own structures and forms of organisation.

On the topic of health and nature, **Kobie Brand** mentioned the IUCN-led global initiative involving health practitioners, 'Cities for nature: healthy cities, healthy people'. She noted that while urban populations tended to distance themselves from nature, it was possible to heal this disconnect, with significant community and individual benefits, as demonstrated by the fall in crime when urban green spaces were open and safe.

Roberto Vides considered that IUCN tended to adopt secular positions in its conservation work, but that bringing together scientists and religious groups could have greater impact.

Comments from the floor included a recommendation for IUCN to develop training for Members on how to build new constituencies for nature, and an observation that reference to young professionals had been missing from the discussion on youth engagement.

Thanking the moderator and panellists and drawing discussion to a close, the **Chair** recalled that the ideas coming out of the session would, in the short term, be used to inform both the Hawai'i Commitments and the Draft IUCN Programme 2017–2020. However, this was also an evolutionary process and these topics would continue to be discussed and would thereby influence even more the Union's Programme beyond 2020.

Agenda item 4.2 – Reports of the IUCN Commissions

Assuming the chair and thanking **Vice-President John Robinson** for chairing the first part of the 4th Sitting, the **President** commented that the importance of the work of the Commissions could not be overestimated. They delivered a significant body of scientific research that underpinned IUCN's policies and actions. More remarkably, however, they delivered their work while engaging thousands of highly committed volunteers. The unique strengths of their conservation work was in the power of volunteers who provided their technical and policy expertise to IUCN, governments, NGOs and the entire conservation world. He paid tribute to the work of the Commission Steering Committees, Commission Chairs and the more than 10,000 volunteer Commission members. He invited the Commission Chairs to the podium to present their reports for the 2013–2016 intersessional periods.

The **Commission Chairs**, presented highlights of their reports, contained in Congress document WCC-2016-4.2.1 and its Annexes 1–6, as follows:

- Commission on Ecosystem Management (presented by CEM Chair, Piet Wit);
- Commission on Education and Communication (presented by CEC Acting Chair Nancy Colleton; former Chair Juliane Zeidler had stepped down for health reasons in April 2016);
- Commission on Environmental, Economic & Social Policy (presented by CEESP Chair, Aroha Mead);
- Species Survival Commission (presented by SSC Chair, Simon Stuart);
- World Commission on Environmental Law (presented by WCEL Chair, Antonio Benjamin); and
- World Commission on Protected Areas (presented by WCPA Chair, Kathy MacKinnon, successor to Ernesto Enkerlin Hoeflich who had resigned in 2015).

Following completion of all six presentations, the **President** opened the floor to questions and comments.

Interventions were made by **AWAZ Foundation** (Pakistan), **Coastal Area Resource Development** (Bangladesh), **Instituto Chico Mendes de Conservação** (Brazil), **Hashemite Fund for the Development of Jordan Badia** (Jordan), **Nigerian Environmental Study Action Team** (Nigeria), **Tropical Resources Institute (Yale School of Forestry)** (USA), **Wildlife Conservation Authority** (Ethiopia), **Ministère de l'Environnement et du Développement** (Senegal), **Association Ribat Al Fath** (Morocco), **Palau Conservation Society** (Palau), **Environmental Watch** (Cameroon), **Brotee Social Welfare Organization** (Bangladesh), **Centre de Suivi Ecologique** (Senegal), **Association des Enseignements des Sciences de la Vie et de la Terre** (Morocco), **Fundación Futuro Latinoamericano** (Ecuador) and **Academia Colombiana de Ciencias Exactas Físicas y Naturales** (Colombia).

The President invited the Commission Chairs to respond to the comments and questions raised.

The **Chair of CEESP** (Aroha Mead), asked the Assembly to keep in mind that Commission members worked in a voluntary capacity; they could not do everything, everywhere and it was therefore important to be realistic about expectations.

The **Acting Chair of CEC** (Nancy Colleton) underscored the voluntary nature of the IUCN Commissions and acknowledged the vital support provided by the Secretariat. The Commissions would aim to put in place mechanisms to be more responsive to membership queries. There had been good coordination and communication between the Commissions and she expected this would continue in the coming intersessional period.

The **Chair of CEM** (Piet Wit) concurred with the observation made by one Member that CEM did not have enough members in Africa. He felt that one explanation for this was the challenge for volunteerism to succeed in a context where many people were necessarily focused on trying to maintain livelihoods. Efforts had been made in West & Central Africa, but the initiative also had to come from the base. In response to a concern raised by the Member from Jordan he noted that pastoralism and rangeland management were very much part of IUCN's Global Drylands Initiative.

The **Chair of SSC** (Simon Stuart) responded to questions about inter-Commission synergies referring to collaboration between SSC and CEESP, which had generated a whole body of work. He confirmed that there was no limit to how many Commissions one individual could join and that in his view it would not be practical to introduce such a limit. He noted that if somebody joined the IUCN Sustainable Use and Livelihoods Specialist Group, they automatically became a member of both SSC and CEESP. He agreed that Commission membership in Africa looked a little weak and though there were 900 members in the region this was less than the capacity required. He would be happy to discuss further with the Member from Morocco that had raised specific issues regarding a site of importance for a threatened marine mammal species. Responding to concerns raised by a Member from Bangladesh in relation to development threats to the Sundarbans, he noted that the IUCN Director General frequently wrote to governments on issues of policy and legislation relating to threatened areas. He advised the Member concerned to contact the local IUCN office and Commission representatives in the first instance.

The **Chair of WCEL** (Antonio Benjamin) responded to the Member from Pakistan, who had asked about the potential role of the judiciary in lobbying for stronger environmental protection. Since judges had to apply the rule of law, it was not appropriate for them to be involved in environmental activism relating to those laws. A specific legal and judicial framework applied in Pakistan that enabled a judge who identified breaches of human rights or environmental legislation to instigate constitutional legal procedures. However, this was not the case in the great majority of countries. He agreed with the Member from Bangladesh who had commented that the environmental laws in place did not necessarily bring justice. Moreover, there were laws that acted against nature. In response to the Member from Senegal, he concurred that illegal exploitation and trafficking of nature should be treated in the same way as the trafficking of drugs, since both threatened future sustainability.

The **Chair of WCPA** (Kathy MacKinnon) echoed the invitation issued by the Chair of CEESP for anyone especially interested in any of the topics covered to consider joining one of the Commission Specialist Groups. All Commission Chairs would love to see broader representation. There was plenty of information available on the IUCN website about who to contact. In Africa, WCPA had two Vice-Chairs for both West & Central Africa and East & Southern Africa, though the latter position was currently vacant, since the previous incumbent had recently passed away. Regarding the issue of developments in conflict with conservation of protected areas in Bangladesh, a lot came down to better spatial planning. She would be happy to discuss with the Member concerned on a one-to-one basis. She also invited the Member from Senegal concerned about trafficking of resources from protected areas to contact her directly. Through WCPA, IUCN had been leading initiatives under the Biodiversity & Protected Area Management Programme (BIOPAMA) in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries and Members interested to learn more about this were invited to speak with the relevant IUCN Regional Offices.

Drawing this agenda item and the 4th Sitting to a close, the **President** thanked the Commission Chairs for their comments and responses to Members' questions.

5th Sitting of the Members' Assembly

Wednesday 7 September 2016 (14.30–18.30)

The 5th Sitting was chaired by **IUCN Vice-President Miguel Pellerano**, Regional Councillor for Meso and South America (until the end of agenda item 5.1), and by the **President** (all subsequent agenda items).

Second Report of the Credentials Committee

The **Chair** invited the **Chair of the Credentials Committee** to present the Committee's Second Report.

The **Chair of the Credentials Committee** (George Greene) reported that there had been a substantial increase in the voting power of accredited Members since presentation of the Committee's First Report during 1st Sitting (Agenda item 1.1).

The numbers of potential votes held by IUCN Members in good standing were:

Category A (Government and Governmental Agencies): 230 votes

Category B (International and National NGOs): 1,062 votes

Of these potential votes, the voting power of accredited Members represented at the 2016 World Conservation Congress, as of 12.00 hrs on Wednesday 7 September 2016, was:

Category A (Government and Governmental Agencies): 199 votes (86%)

Category B (International and National NGOs): 765 votes (72%)

He emphasised that it was essential for Members to obtain accreditation and to receive speaking/voting cards in order to be able to exercise their rights during the Assembly.

Agenda item 5.1 – Presentation of candidates for Regional Councillor followed by electronic election of twenty-eight Regional Councillors

The **Chair** explained the procedure for the candidate presentations and election of Regional Councillors. In an innovation to the format for candidate presentations at previous Congresses, all

candidates for Regional Councillor positions would be asked to respond individually, but in regional groupings, to two questions for which they had received prior notice in order to prepare their answers. The candidates from each region would be called to the podium in alphabetical order and each candidate from the region concerned would have two minutes to answer the first question and one minute for the second question. The two questions would be:

- *What in your view are the critical issues facing IUCN and what role can and should the Council play in addressing these challenges?*
- *How could IUCN be more relevant in your Region or what will you do to make IUCN more relevant in your Region?*

Once candidates from all regions had presented their responses, the Election Officer would oversee the ballot for the election of Regional Councillors.

The following **candidates for election to the position of Regional Councillor** (listed in alphabetical order, per region) each presented their responses to the two questions. The **Chair** ensured compliance with the stated time limits. The order in which candidates were invited to speak was determined by alphabetical order of last names, beginning with the letter 'S', which had been drawn at random by the **Election Officer**, in conformity with the Rules of Procedure.

Candidates for Regional Councillor, Africa

Emad ADLY, Egypt
Mamadou DIALLO, Senegal
Jesca ERIYO OSUNA, Uganda
Ali KAKA, Kenya
Jennifer MOHAMED-KATERERE, South Africa

Candidates for Regional Councillor, East Europe, North and Central Asia

Michael HOSEK, Czech Republic
Tamar PATARIDZE, Georgia
Each Rustam SAGITOV, Russian Federation

Candidates for Regional Councillor, Meso and South America

Marco Vinicio CEREZO BLANDON, Guatemala
Carlos César DURIGAN, Brazil
Jenny GRUENBERGER, Bolivia
Lider SUCRE, Panama

Candidates for Regional Councillor, North America

Rick BATES, Canada
Sixto J. INCHAUSTEGUI, Dominican Republic*
John G. ROBINSON, USA

*This candidate was unable to be present at the Congress due to illness. With the approval of the **Election Officer** a pre-recorded video statement was screened.

Candidates for Regional Councillor, Oceania

Andrew William BIGNELL, New Zealand
Peter Michael COCHRANE, Australia
Anna Elizabeth TIRAA, Cook Islands

Candidates for Regional Councillor, South and East Asia

Amran HAMZAH, Malaysia
Masahiko HORIE, Japan
Malik Amin Aslam KHAN, Pakistan
Mangal Man SHAKYA, Nepal
Youngbae SUH, Republic of Korea

Candidates for Regional Councillor, West Asia

Shaikha Salem AL DHAHERI, United Arab Emirates
Said Ahmad DAMHOUREYEH, Jordan
Ali DARWISH, Lebanon
Asghar Mohammadi FAZEL, Iran
Ayman RABI, Palestine

Candidates for Regional Councillor, West Europe

Hilde EGGERMONT, Belgium
Jonathan HUGHES, United Kingdom
Jörg JUNHOLD, Germany
Jan Olov WESTERBERG, Sweden

At the invitation of the **Chair**, **Congress** showed its appreciation by acclamation of all candidates that had spoken.

Progress Report from the Chair of the Congress Resolutions Committee

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** was given the floor to announce that Contact Group deliberations on two motions had been completed and that relevant texts were now available online in all three IUCN languages for plenary discussion and voting.

The **Chair** announced a 20-minute break to enable Members to discuss among themselves the candidate presentations prior to casting their ballots for the 28 Regional Councillor positions.

Following resumption of the 5th Sitting, Agenda item 5.1, the **Chair** asked the **Election Officer** to explain briefly the election process and use of the voting system.

The **Election Officer** (Michael D. Wilson) explained that there would be two types of ballot to elect the 28 Regional Councillors. When the number of candidates was the same as the number of Council seats available, there would be a round of voting for each individual candidate, in alphabetical order, and Members would have 15 seconds to vote 'Yes', 'No' or 'Abstain'. When there were more candidates than the number of seats available, there would be only one round of voting and Members would have one minute to choose multiple candidates (up to the number of seats available) and to confirm their vote. The **Election Officer** underlined that, in conformity with the Rules of Procedure, Members would not be able to log in to the voting system, and no Point of Order would be allowed, during the time that the vote was taking place.

In response to questions, the **Election Officer** clarified that:

- It was possible to vote against a candidate in both types of ballot; either by voting 'No' for a candidate in the first type of ballot, or by not selecting a given candidate, in the second type; and

- In the first type of election (i.e. when the number of candidates was equal to the number of vacancies) the candidates would be voted on in alphabetical order and their names would be displayed, one by one, on the plenary hall screens.

The **Chair** opened the voting process, commencing with the Africa Region. However, in response to representations from several Members, and with the consent of Congress, the **Chair** ruled that the first ballot for Regional Councillors for Africa should be disregarded since some Members were still familiarising themselves with the use of the electronic voting system. Technical assistance was provided for those who needed it and the ballot for the Africa Region was restarted.

Voting for the 28 Regional Councillors proceeded as follows:

- Africa (five candidates and four seats; one round of voting, enabling selection of up to four candidates);
- East Europe, North and Central Asia (three candidates and three seats; three rounds of voting, one per candidate, in alphabetical order);
- Meso and South America (four seats and four candidates; four rounds of voting, one per candidate, in alphabetical order);
- Oceania (three seats and three candidates; three rounds of voting, one per candidate, in alphabetical order);
- North America and the Caribbean (three candidates and three seats; three rounds of voting, one per candidate, in alphabetical order);
- South and East Asia (five candidates and five seats available; five rounds of voting, one per candidate, in alphabetical order);
- West Asia (three seats and five candidates; one round of voting, enabling selection of up to three candidates); and
- West Europe (three seats and four candidates; one round of voting, enabling selection of up to three candidates).

Following the completion of voting for all regions, the **Chair** declared the election of Regional Councillors closed.

The **Chair** recalled that no results would be released until the 7th Sitting on Friday 9 September 2016, in order to enable the remaining elections to proceed with no possibility of the outcome of those elections being influenced by early release of the results of the current ballot. The deferred announcement of results would also allow for all results to be collated and fully verified by the Election Officer. The **Chair** stressed that the goal was to make sure that the election process was secure, fair and transparent.

Agenda item 5.2 (continuation of agenda items remaining from the 4th Sitting): 4.3 Adoption of the mandates of the IUCN Commission 2017–2020

The **President** (Zhang Xinsheng) invited Members to cast their votes to approve the proposed Mandates for the six IUCN Commissions, as contained in Congress Document WCC-2016-4.3-1 *Proposed Mandates for IUCN Commissions Annexes 1 to 3, Annex 4 Rev1, and Annexes 5 and 6*. As prescribed in the Regulations, the proposed mandates had been prepared by Council, following consultation with Members and ensuring alignment with the Draft IUCN Programme 2017–2020. The Programme Committee of Congress had received one amendment, namely to the draft mandate of the Species Survival Committee (SSC), as a consequence of further development of the SSC Strategic Plan since Council's adoption of the draft mandate. This had resulted in new wording for a few of the Key Species Results, and also a small number of additional Key Species Results. The amendment had been proposed by the Steering Committee of the SSC and seconded by two IUCN Members. There being no questions from the floor, the Chair opened the vote.

Congress took the following decision: [[voting record](#)]:

DECISION 6

Congress ADOPTS the [mandates for the six IUCN Commissions](#) for the period 2017–2020.

Agenda item 5.3 Report on the meeting of all recognised National and Regional Committees (held on 1 September 2016)

The **President** recalled that the Statutes required Regional Committees and Regional Fora to present reports to Congress. As in 2012, this requirement was implemented by giving Regional Committees and Regional Fora the opportunity to post their reports on the website. He invited the **Chair of the UK National Committee** (Mr Chris Mahon) to present a report on the meeting of all recognised National and Regional Committees, which had been held on 1 September 2016.

Mr Mahon spoke about the objectives and results of the meeting that had brought together more than 150 participants from 62 National Committees and five Regional Committees. Some of the key conclusions were that:

- The role of National and Regional Committees remained insufficiently recognised;
- Their potential was still not being realised;
- There was good evidence of added value; and
- Further development of National and Regional Committees was still required.

He stressed the significance of the approval, following online discussion and electronic voting, of Motion 002 – *IUCN Global Group for National and Regional Committee Development*. This motion had addressed some of the challenges listed above through establishment of a Global Group for National and Regional Committees. This would be recognised by IUCN Council and charged with working in coordination with the Union Development Group in delivery of the IUCN Programme.

Mr Mahon highlighted two additional messages to the Members Assembly:

- IUCN National and Regional Committees of Members constituted the ‘backbone’ of the Union, by which he meant that Members gave strength and flexibility to the Union, with articulation between them afforded by the Committees; and
- Members wanted to ‘row together’ with other parts of the Union.

He thanked the **President** and the **Global Director of the Union Development Group** for their support and ended his presentation summarising the next steps in the process to establish the Global Group for National and Regional Committees, namely:

- Setting up a regionally representative online pilot group;
- Liaising with the Secretariat on logistics;
- Working on Terms of Reference and governance;
- Developing priorities; and
- Continuing to consult with Members.

The Chair opened the floor for questions and comments.

Responding to a question from the **Centre for Media Studies** (India) and remarks made by **Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority** (Ethiopia) and **Development of Biotechnology & Environment** (Bangladesh), **Mr Mahon** underlined the need for an effective mechanism for sharing of information and experience between the many National and Regional Committees.

He welcomed the example presented by **Groupe de Recherche et d'Etudes Environnementales** (Senegal) concerning the role of the IUCN Regional Committee for West and Central Africa in helping to secure Green Climate Fund accreditation for a national entity in Senegal and appreciated the offer to share experience with other Members.

In response to questions from **Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement** (Togo) and **Groupe d'Action pour l'Enfance au Sahel** (Mali), he stressed that each National and Regional Committee was different. The priority was to establish a system that everyone could both feed into and use as a source of information. Part of the on-going process, would involve looking at development needs for Regional and (especially) National Committees; the analysis to date had merely scratched the surface of the problem. If the change were easy to achieve it would have been done already. Therefore, the first task of the global-level group was to ensure that a mechanism was available for information exchange.

Coastal Area Resource Development (Bangladesh) wished to clarify that travel disruption had resulted in late arrival at the 1 September meeting of recognised National and Regional Committees. It had therefore not been possible to present the report of the Bangladesh National Committee.

Agenda item 5.4 – Progress Report of the Resolutions Committee followed by discussion and vote on motions

At the request of the **President**, the **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** (Simon Stuart) provided an update on motions of strategic importance identified by the Motions Working Group in March 2016 as meriting discussion at the Members' Assembly:

Motion 026 – *Protected areas and other areas important for biodiversity in relation to environmentally damaging industrial-scale activities and infrastructure development*

Motion 049 – *Advancing conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction*

Motion 063 – *Natural Capital*

The Contact Groups for these three motions had made progress but discussions had not yet been completed and further Contact Group meetings were being scheduled. Times and venues would be notified as soon as possible.

Motion 064 – *IUCN Policy on Biodiversity Offsets*

The Contact Group had reached an advanced stage of discussion and would share a revised text in the near future.

Motion 065 – *Improving standards in ecotourism*

The Contact Group had reached consensus on a text, concluding that IUCN itself should not act as a certification body but should work with existing certification bodies. The revised text was ready for discussion and voting in plenary.

He also provided an update on the remaining eight Motions that had been referred to Congress in order for unresolved differences of view during the online discussion to be addressed:

Motion 007 – *Closure of domestic markets for elephant ivory*

Consensus had not yet been reached. A further meeting of the Contact Group would be scheduled.

Motion 037 – *[Conservation of [private] [privately] protected areas] [Supporting the voluntary conservation of private lands]*

A third Contact Group meeting had been scheduled.

Motion 048 – *Protection of primary forests, including intact forest landscapes*

This was a merger of three different motions, but the Contact Group had concluded that it would be more appropriate to produce two separate motions, one on primary forests and intact forest landscapes, and the other on ancient forests.

Motion 053 – *Increasing marine protected area coverage for effective marine biodiversity conservation*

Consensus had not yet been reached. A further meeting of the Contact Group would be scheduled.

Motion 059 – *IUCN response to the Paris Climate Change Agreement*

A further meeting of the Contact Group had been scheduled.

Motion 061 – *Take greater account of the ocean in the climate regime*

Consensus had been reached on a revised text, which would be tabled for plenary to consider as soon as a small number of translation issues had been resolved.

Motion 074 – *Strengthening corporate biodiversity measurement, valuation and reporting*

The Contact Group had reached consensus subject to inclusion of a few amendments, focusing on the fact that consistent guidelines on this issue do not currently exist. The text was already available in all three languages, ready for plenary discussion.

Motion 090 – *Phasing-out the use of lead ammunition [used for hunting] [in wetlands]*

Progress had been made but there was still a need for additional discussion. A further Contact Group meeting had been scheduled.

The translations of the newly submitted **Motion 103** – *Vicuña (Vicugna vicugna) conservation and the illegal trade in its fibre*, and **Motion 100** – *Two dams on the Santa Cruz River in Argentina: Their impact on an irreplaceable ecosystem and on the hooded grebe (Podiceps gallardoi) population, a Critically Endangered species endemic to Argentina* were currently being checked for errors and would be available shortly.

Finally he clarified that the Resolutions Committee would examine eligibility, under Rule 52 of the Rules of Procedure, of a motion submitted by a Member from Lebanon, which had been submitted on time, but had not yet been considered by the Committee.

At the request of the **President**, the **Chair of the Governance Committee** (Margaret Beckel) provided an update on the six governance-related motions. The following five motions had been through Contact Groups and consensus had been reached on all of them with either no change, or only minor amendments. The final texts would be made available for Members to review ahead of the plenary Sittings on 9 September.

- **Motion B** – *Including indigenous peoples' organisations in the structure of the Union;*
- **Motion C** – *Election of the IUCN President;*
- **Motion D** – *Members' Assembly's sole authority to amend the Regulations pertaining to the objectives, nature of the membership and membership criteria (follow-up to decision 22 of the 2012 World Conservation Congress);*
- **Motion E** – *Enhanced practice and reforms of IUCN's governance; and*
- **Motion F** – *Proposed amendment to Article 6 of the IUCN Statutes concerning the dues of State and political/economic integration organisation Members adhering to IUCN.*

The **Chair of the Governance Committee** reported that no consensus had yet been reached on **Motion A** – *Including local and regional governmental authorities in the structure of the Union* and this therefore needed to go to a second round of Contact Group discussions.

The **President** thanked the **Chairs of the Resolutions and Governance Committees** and opened the floor to comments and questions.

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** responded to a number of organisational and logistical questions from **Environment and Conservation Organizations of New Zealand**, **Fundación RIE – Red Informática Ecologista** (Argentina), **Peruvian Society for Environmental Law** (Peru), **Wildlife Conservation Authority** (Ethiopia) and **Forest Stewardship Council A.C.** (USA). These related mainly to the scheduling and working languages of specific Contact Groups. He advised that it would be of doubtful utility to post a written update from the Committee on the Congress website, since the listing presented orally was very much a work in progress. It would also be impractical to provide a fast-evolving listing in all three languages.

The Secretariat's **Senior Policy Officer, Global Policy Unit** and **focal point for the Motions Working Group and Resolutions Committee** (Sonia Peña Moreno) provided additional information on the process being followed to split Motion 048 on forests into two separate motions.

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** indicated that of the two revised motion texts available in all three languages (Motion 061 and Motion 065), the former had only recently been posted and Members would therefore not have had sufficient opportunity to review it. It was therefore recommended that this be deferred to the next Sitting. Motion 065, however, was ready for plenary discussion and voting.

The **President** opened the floor open for comments and questions on Motion 065 – *Improving standards in ecotourism*.

Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (Argentina) pointed out that the Spanish version still contained square-bracketed text, even though the Chair of the Resolutions Committee had indicated consensus had been reached in the Contact Group.

Upon a Point of Order from the **Association for Rural Area Social Modification, Improvement and Nestling** (India) that the Members' Assembly be adjourned for the day, and following advice from the **Congress Procedural Adviser** (Sena Wijewardane) that the motion to adjourn should be put to a vote, **Congress** took the following decision: [[voting record](#)]:

DECISION 7

Congress DOES NOT APPROVE the motion to adjourn the 5th Sitting.

The **President** re-opened the floor for interventions concerning Motion 065.

Following interventions by **World Wildlife Fund** (USA) – which tabled an amendment to the motion, **Forest Stewardship Council A.C.** (USA), **Tropical Resources Institute (Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies)** (USA) and **Fundación para la Conservación de los Recursos Naturales** (Panama), the **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** concluded that further consultations would be required before the motion would be ready for final plenary consideration and voting.

The **President** deferred further consideration of Motion 065 and opened the floor for discussion on Motion 074 – *Strengthening corporate biodiversity measurement, valuation and reporting*.

The text arising from the Contact Group on this Motion was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 8

Congress ADOPTED Motion 074.

[[voting record](#):]

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** urged all Members who wished to propose amendments to any of the motions still under consideration to attend the relevant Contact Group meetings. The schedule for those meetings had now been fixed and it would not be possible to make changes due to the logistical issues involved and the need to finalise texts in time for plenary consideration.

The **President** thanked all those who had contributed to the motions process at Congress thus far and invited Members check the Congress portal, as well as the Congress app, for further information on Contact Group meetings.

6th Sitting of the Members' Assembly

Friday 9 September 2016 (08.30–13.00)

The **President** welcomed Members to the continuation of the Assembly's formal business following the delegate excursions that had taken place on Thursday 8 September. The Congress Committees and Secretariat were working hard to ensure that all revised documents, including motions, were ready in all three languages for plenary consideration. He summarised the agenda items scheduled for the 6th Sitting and invited **Vice-President John Robinson** to chair the first of these (item 6.1 concerning the IUCN Programme 2017–2020) after presenting a brief update on the Hawai'i Commitments.

Speaking on behalf of the **Working Group on the Hawai'i Commitments**, **John Robinson** advised that the first draft of the *Hawai'i Commitments* had been posted online on Wednesday 7 September 2016 and that the period for comments had closed at noon on Thursday 8 September. Hundreds of comments had been received and incorporated to the extent possible. A second draft had now been posted and would remain open for comment until noon on Friday 9 September. The Working Group would then review all further interventions and generate a final version to be welcomed by acclamation on Saturday 10 September.

Agenda item 6.1 – Discussion of the Draft IUCN Programme 2017–2020, Report of the Congress Programme Committee, followed by the adoption of the IUCN Programme 2017–2020

At the invitation of the **Chair** (John Robinson), the **Chair of the Programme Committee** (Tamar Pataridze) presented the report of the Programme Committee of Congress. He recalled the composition of the Committee, which had met four times to consider proposed amendments to the Draft IUCN Programme 2017–2020. A total of 13 proposed amendments had been reviewed, including 11 submitted directly to the Committee, plus two draft motions referred to the Programme Committee by the Resolutions Committee, with the suggestion that amendments to the Draft Programme might be the best means of addressing the substantive issues raised.

Nine of the 13 proposed amendments had been received ahead of the deadline for consideration by the Open-ended Contact Group held on Wednesday 7 September and co-facilitated by Vice-Presidents John Robinson and Amin Malik Aslam Khan and attended by members of the Programme Committee. The Secretariat has subsequently brought three additional proposals to the attention of the Programme Committee, noting that technical issues had prevented these proposals, submitted before the deadline, from being correctly identified. The Programme Committee had therefore agreed to consider them, in order to be fair to the proponents. One final proposal had been received on Thursday 8 September as a motion referred to the Programme Committee by the Resolutions Committee. The Programme Committee had also agreed to take this into account.

The **Programme Committee** was of the view that 12 of the proposals could be accommodated, in whole or in part, as amendments to the Programme, given that they fulfilled a number of the criteria guiding prioritisation for inclusion, notably: relevance to IUCN's mission; potential to mobilise

multiple components of IUCN; mandate from and coherence with IUCN Resolutions or international agreements; evidence that IUCN would be able to add value, and be best placed to deliver and show leadership; and availability of resources and expertise for delivery. The 12 amendments recommended for adoption covered the following topics:

- Rights of nature (adoption with modifications);
- Geoheritage (partial adoption);
- Ecotourism (partial adoption);
- Healthy Parks, Health People (adoption);
- Freshwater – two amendments (adoption of both);
- Nature for All – two amendments (adoption of one, adoption with modifications of the other);
- Antarctic (adoption);
- Wildlife trafficking (adoption);
- Sustainable communities (adoption); and
- West Asia (adoption).

One proposed amendment, relating to the issue of energy, was recommended for rejection.

The Global Director of IUCN's Policy and Programme Group (Cyrie Sendashonga) provided further details of the substance of the 12 amendments recommended for acceptance and the means by which each could be incorporated. In some cases this would be through revised wording of Global Results or specific Targets; in other cases an amendment to the narrative text would be more appropriate.

With regard to the decision to recommend rejection of the amendment on energy, the **Chair of the Programme Committee of Congress** stressed that IUCN fully recognised and supported the view that a transition from fossil fuels towards clean energy systems was essential for environmental sustainability. The Union had consistently reflected this in its position papers relating to climate change negotiations such as the recent COP21 in Paris. However, the view of the Programme Committee was that IUCN's climate-change 'niche' was built around nature conservation and the deployment of nature-based solutions for mitigation and adaptation. With growing recognition by the international community of the value of ecosystems in addressing climate change, it would not be strategic to shift the centre of gravity of IUCN's identity by introducing new areas of work dealing with technology-based solutions for harnessing solar, wind, ocean and geothermal energy. Taking IUCN in such a direction would require investing significant resources in terms of staff, time and finances, while it was doubtful that there was a clear added value or a comparative advantage that IUCN would be able to bring in relation to the numerous other actors already present in this field of work.

In conclusion, the **Programme Committee of Congress** was recommending that Congress endorse the Committee's recommendation to adopt 12 proposed amendments to the Draft Programme, reject introduction of a new theme on energy, and approve the IUCN Programme 2017–2020 taking into account the adjustments that would be made by the Secretariat to reflect the amendments accepted.

At the invitation of the **Chair**, the **Director General** expressed her thanks to the Programme Committee and her conviction that the recommended amendments would greatly strengthen the Programme. She noted that it would not be possible to edit the document in detail on the floor of the Assembly but committed the Secretariat to incorporating the amendments as detailed by the previous speakers, noting also that all the amendments had been published as Congress document WCC-2016-2.1/3 *Amendments to the Programme received in writing*.

The **Chair** opened the floor for discussion.

Cultura ambiental (Uruguay) requested further clarification of the reasons for recommending the rejection of the amendment on renewable energy, given its significance for the conservation of natural resources.

Association Ribat Al Fath, (Morocco) underscored this importance and considered that renewable energy was an issue that IUCN needed to be strongly involved with.

State Nature Conservancy of Slovakia, speaking in Slovakia's capacity as the current President of the European Council, made a formal statement of support for the Draft Programme on behalf of the EU Member States present at the meeting, stressing the relevance of the Programme in the EU context and expressing the hope that it would be reflected in the Union's European Regional Programme. The statement continued:

“Europe is a very diverse region with severe environmental challenges which have a strong footprint globally. Among these challenges there are those highlighted and discussed here at the Congress as issues of strategic importance. However, Europe is unique in its continental approach through a law-making supranational institution, the European Union, which provides it with policy instruments that can deal with the challenges mentioned and which has a major influence in setting the high standards in environmental decision-making worldwide.

IUCN in Europe should therefore focus on enhancing the implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy and progress towards achieving the Aichi Targets and should encourage EU Member States and the European Commission to fully implement the Strategy. IUCN should further support marine conservation through its work on marine litter within the circular economy package. The integration of environmental concerns within agricultural policy is crucial to guarantee sustainable agriculture and safeguard biodiversity in the EU, in line with the agri-environmental measures already developed within the Common Agricultural Policy. It should engage with businesses, refining concepts such as natural capital, and implement the Paris Agreement as well as the Sustainable Development Goals”.

International Council of Environmental Law applauded the emphasis in the Draft Programme on the Sustainable Development Goals. It was important to note that each of the 17 SDGs was interdependent and this should be reflected in the Programme document. For example, education of girls and women was not a core function of conservation, but without it conservation would not succeed.

European Association for the Conservation of Geological Heritage called for the conservation of geodiversity and geoheritage to be fully integrated into IUCN's Programme.

Unnayan Onneshan (Bangladesh) asked whether a direct link with motions could be made within the Programme and enquired about the linkages between Programme, budget and structuring of the Secretariat.

World Association of Zoos and Aquariums and **Ministère de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable** (Senegal) asked for clarification about a specific suggestion outlined by the Global Director of the Programme & Policy Group in relation to a shift of terminology from “biodiversity” to “nature”.

Ministère de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable (Tunisia) welcomed alignment of the Programme with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing and urged that nature conservation be promoted as a central pillar of DRR.

Wildlife Conservation Authority (Ethiopia) called for the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife, and other global commitments on the issue, to be reflected in the Programme.

SACAN Foundation (Pakistan), speaking on behalf of the South Asian Conservation and Agriculture Network, underlined that in the South Asia region 93% of freshwater use was by the agriculture sector, which was also a major polluter. The Programme should reflect the solutions that the region needed.

Centre Africain de Recherches Forestière (Cameroon) drew attention to aspirations for industrial agriculture in the Congo basin and underlined the need for the impacts on ecosystems to be considered.

Arab Group for the Protection of Nature (Jordan) welcomed the Programme Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment on West Asia and requested that the Fertile Crescent and Yemen also be added.

Baanhn Beli (Pakistan) cautioned that the Union was too 'Secretariat-centric' and donor dependent when it came to implementation. There was vast potential in the regions to mobilise resources that was not being harnessed.

Centre de Suivi Ecologique (Senegal) requested that particular attention be given to the Africa Region to prevent imbalances due to gaps in capacity, technical skills and financial resources.

Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate (India) asked what IUCN was doing to ensure that currently unknown species were discovered before they became extinct.

Centro de Apoyo a la Gestión Sostenible del Agua y el Medio Ambiente 'Agua Sostenible' (Bolivia) and **Association Malienne pour la conservation de la faune et de son environnement** Requested clarification on the amendment on freshwater.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (China) appreciated the linkages between the Programme and the Paris Agreement and SDGs, but called for establishment of an implementation mechanism.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development (France) expressed reservations about including language relating to the 'rights of nature'. In the view of France, the terminology used in the Programme should not confer any rights in addition to those recognised in the UN framework.

Centre for Biodiversity and Indigenous Knowledge (China) highlighted regional cooperation as a great advantage for IUCN and called for application of indigenous knowledge to be strengthened.

The **Director General** responded to a number of the points raised, noting that:

- The indivisibility of the SDGs was highlighted in the Programme document and could be reflected in the introductory text if this was not the case already. However, this did not mean that IUCN itself could work on every SDG.
- In regard to geoheritage, Geoparks was something that IUCN had been engaged in, together with UNESCO, for some time and this would continue in the future.
- With respect to the linkages between Programme and motions, there were literally thousands of motions but only one Programme, which needed to be expressed coherently, so there could not be a one-to-one alignment with motions, but rather a clustering around the three Programme themes. The motions were effectively the foundation and expression of the three themes.
- With regard to concerns expressed about the replacement of the term 'biodiversity' with 'nature', this was only proposed in one specific place in the Programme document, but in order to avoid any misconceptions the phrase 'biodiversity and nature' would be used instead for this particular edit.
- IUCN had been instrumental in the establishment of both the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. The nature-based

solutions component of the Programme contained a considerable element relating to disaster risk reduction, while Members, Commissions and Secretariat were all actively engaged in work related to benefit sharing.

- IUCN was actively engaged in both the sustainable use and illegal trafficking dimensions of wildlife trade. For reasons of space the Programme did not make reference to all relevant United Nations Resolutions, but IUCN certainly took note of those Resolutions, as well as Resolutions adopted by CITES.
- A helpful amendment had been tabled to strengthen the Programme in relation to water, an issue that had been raised by a number of Members.
- During the Programme period IUCN would deepen its engagement in the biodiversity – agriculture intersect.
- A reference to the Fertile Crescent and Yemen would indeed be added, as requested.
- National and Regional Committees had a major role to play in implementation of the Programme and the Secretariat looked forward to doing all that it could to support that work.
- The outgoing Chair of the Commission for Ecosystem Management had attached high priority to working in Africa and would doubtless hand over that mandate to the incoming Chair.
- The Species Survival Commission and Species Programme had set ambitious targets for considerable numbers of additional species assessments to be completed by 2020.
- With regard to the issue of energy, successive Members' Assemblies had emphasised the imperative of moving towards a low-carbon future. However, IUCN's core mandate was not as an energy agency, with all of the specialisation that would require, and many other organisations were already working extremely well in that field. IUCN's niche was to focus on those elements pertaining to ecosystem-based adaptation and mitigation measures, nature-based solutions and bringing into the climate conversation the imperative of ecosystems.
- The concept of 'rights of nature' had been reflected in previous Programmes and spoke to the conservation of nature, expressing the importance that needed to be attached to the integrity and intrinsic value of nature, even without reference to human well-being.

The **Chair** announced that the moment had come for taking decisions. The Assembly would be asked to vote on the Programme Committee's recommendations in two stages. First the 12 amendments recommended for adoption and incorporation into the Draft Programme, and secondly the amendment on energy that the Committee was recommending be rejected.

A Point of Order was raised by **Ministry of Environment** (Finland). It was extremely difficult to understand what Members were being asked to vote on without seeing the proposed amendments displayed as 'tracked changes' to the Draft Programme document. This concern was echoed by **Sierra Club** (USA), **Nigerian Environmental Study Action Team** (Nigeria), and **Ministry of the Environment and Energy** (Sweden), which called for a deferral of voting on the Draft Programme until Members had the opportunity to see the proposed amendments incorporated into the document.

The **Chair** responded that the text was many pages long and it wasn't feasible to undertake text editing in such a large meeting. The specific amendments to the Programme had been suggested by Members, recommended for approval by the Programme Committee, and were available on the Congress website. It was now a matter of the Secretariat integrating these into the text of the Programme and working on the necessary polishing of language, grammar and tidying up of 'knock-on' changes.

The **Director General** underlined that the Programme was a 45-page document in three languages. A change made in one place would trigger consequent changes that needed to ripple through the document and this would require time and care after the Congress. A similar 'good faith' exercise had been conducted after the Jeju Congress to take on board the agreed amendments and ensure they were fully reflected. The Secretariat would produce a 'clean' version of the amended Programme, together with a tracked-changes version showing exactly where amendments had been made so that Members could find them easily.

A Point of Order was raised by the **Swedish Museum of Natural History**. The call made to defer approval of the Draft Programme needed itself to be handled by a vote.

The **Chair** invited Members to vote ‘Yes’, ‘No’ or ‘Abstain’ to the motion: “*Do you want to defer the vote?*”.

Congress took the following decision:

DECISION 9

Congress DOES NOT APPROVE the motion to defer the vote on the IUCN Programme 2017–2020.

The **Chair** proceeded to open the two votes on the recommendations of the Programme Committee with regard to proposed amendments to the Draft Programme.

Congress took the following decision: [[voting record](#)]:

DECISION 10

Congress APPROVES the recommendation of the Programme Committee of Congress to accept 12 amendments to the Draft IUCN Programme 2017–2020.

Congress took the following decision: [[voting record](#)]:

DECISION 11

Congress APPROVES the recommendation of the Programme Committee of Congress to reject the amendment pertaining to the introduction of a new theme on energy in the IUCN Programme 2017–2020.

The **Chair** invited Congress to vote on the Draft Programme, as amended.

Congress took the following decision: [[voting record](#)]:

DECISION 12

Congress, on the proposal of the IUCN Director General, and with the approval of the IUCN Council, in accordance with Article 88 (e) of the Statutes:

- APPROVES the [IUCN Programme 2017–2020](#) with the amendments recommended by the Programme Committee of Congress;
- REQUESTS the Director General to incorporate the amendments recommended by the Programme Committee of Congress and to publish the final Programme document accordingly as soon as possible.

Ministry of Environment (Finland) expressed dissatisfaction with the procedures followed and the low priority the Chair appeared to be attaching to the Programme, and subsequently submitted the following statement for the record:

“The delegation of the Ministry of the Environment of Finland would like to explain our concern on the way the decision on the Programme 2017–2020 was made. It is a procedural question from our side. We requested that the changes to the Programme should have been presented to us in a clear, written format, showing tracked changes, so that we could have made an informed and accurate decision instead of leaving the substantial part/content of the amendments unexplained. For the Union and its transparency policy it is important that the Programme 2017–2020, as the main document for the Members and for Framework donors and others, is clear. The oral presentation was confusing and hard to follow as presented to the Assembly. For a Member it is difficult to make an informed and

accurate decision on the main additional content without having the amendments clearly presented to us. Our concern was not on the content per se, but on how the issue was dealt with during the Assembly by the Chair/Secretariat. Finland opposed the way this was handled, but more importantly did not oppose the additions.”

The **Chair** stressed that in his view the Programme was the most important document coming out of the Congress and apologised if he had conveyed anything else. The amendments were available to consult online; they just hadn't gone through a final 'scrub'. Nevertheless it would be appropriate for any Member with remaining concerns to submit an explanation of vote and this would be duly published.

Ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Développement international (France) provided the following statement for the record:

“France supports the IUCN Programme 2017–2020. Concerning the inclusion of “the rights of nature” in Programme Area 2 (Objectives 14 and 15), France interprets the terminology used in the Programme as creating no additional rights to those that France recognises in its national legislation and within the framework of the United Nations.”

International Council of Environmental Law provided the following statement for the record:

“The International Council of Environmental Law supports the objections of the State Members about procedure with respect to the Programme. It is not sound practice to ask IUCN Members to vote without having the express text before all Members. The Congress should have held a Contact Group on the proposed amendment, which could have produced clear text. It is high handed and less than transparent to have the Programme prepared in a small committee only. ICEL voted for the Programme, but requests the Director General and Council to arrange that this less than best practice is NOT repeated four years from now.”

Agenda item 6.2 – Progress Report of the Resolutions Committee followed by discussion and vote on motions

This agenda item was chaired by **IUCN Vice-President Malik Amin Aslam Khan** (Regional Councillor for South and East Asia).

The **Chair** invited the **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** to provide a status update on motions.

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** (Simon Stuart) reported that there had been good progress and that ten motions were ready to be discussed and voted on in plenary. Under Rule 52 of the Rules of Procedure the Committee had assessed a new motion concerning conflict and conservation, which had been submitted within the deadline by Members from West Asia. The Committee had concluded that while urgent, the substance was not new and had therefore rejected the motion as not meeting the criteria laid down in Rule 52. Nevertheless the topic had been referred to the Programme Committee of Congress for its consideration.

With regard to the six motions of strategic importance originally referred to Congress by the Motions Working Group, the current status was as follows:

Motion 026 – *Protected areas and other areas important for biodiversity in relation to environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure development*

Following a second Contact Group meeting consensus had been reached on all elements of the text, which was now ready for plenary.

Motion 049 – *Advancing conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction*

A second Contact Group meeting had been scheduled for later that day.

Motion 063 – *Natural Capital*

A second Contact Group meeting had taken place, consensus had been reached and the motion was ready for plenary.

Motion 064 – *IUCN Policy on Biodiversity Offsets*

A second Contact Group meeting had taken place, consensus had been reached and the motion was ready for plenary.

Motion 065 – *Improving standards in ecotourism*

Following WWF's tabling of amendments during the 5th Sitting, the Resolutions Committee had decided to refer this motion back to the relevant Contact Group. A meeting had been scheduled for later that day.

Motion 066 – *Mitigating the impacts of oil palm expansion and operations on biodiversity*

Agreement had been reached on the great majority of the text, but three words remained bracketed and informal discussions were continuing with a view to this motion being ready for the 7th Sitting of plenary.

With regard to those motions forwarded to Congress because it had not proved possible to reach sufficient consensus on them during online discussion, the current status was as follows:

Motion 007 – *Closure of domestic markets for elephant ivory*

The Resolutions Committee had understood that consensus had been reached during the second meeting of the Contact Group, but had subsequently received formal complaints from two Members. The substance of these complaints was currently being addressed and a further update would be provided in due course.

Motion 037 – *Supporting privately protected areas*

A third Contact Group meeting had taken place, all aspects of the motion had been agreed and it was now ready for plenary.

Motion 048 – *Assessing the global applicability of the concept of ancient forests as understood in European forest policy and management*

As previously reported, the Resolutions Committee had concluded that it would be best to split this motion (which had been formed by the merging of three motions on forests originally received by the Motions Working Group) into two separate motions. There has been no objection to this proposal and the texts of the resulting two motions, 048 and 048bis, were currently in preparation.

Motion 059 – *IUCN response to the Paris Climate Change Agreement*

Following a second Contact Group meeting, full consensus had been reached and the text was now ready for plenary.

Motion 061 – *Take greater account of the ocean in the climate regime*

Documentation issues had been resolved and the text was now ready for plenary.

Motion 090 – *A path forward to address concerns over the use of lead ammunition in hunting*

Following a third Contact Group meeting the motion was now ready for plenary. It should be noted that two different options were being tabled for the formulation of one of the operative paragraphs. In conformity with the Rules of Procedure, the option that represented the most radical amendment to the original text – in this case Option 1 – would need to be voted on first, with Option 2 only being voted on in the case that Option 1 failed.

Motion 053 – *Increasing marine protected area coverage for effective marine biodiversity conservation*

Following a further Contact Group meeting, consensus had been reached and the text was ready for plenary.

Finally, two of the newly submitted motions had reached consensus in Contact Groups and were now ready for plenary:

Motion 100 – *Two dams on the Santa Cruz River in Argentina: Their impact on an irreplaceable ecosystem and on the hooded grebe (Podiceps gallardoi) population, a Critically Endangered species endemic to Argentina*

Motion 103 – *Vicuña (Vicugna vicugna) conservation and the illegal trade in its fibre*

Contact Groups on the other three newly submitted motions had been held that morning and plenary would be briefed on the outcomes as soon as possible.

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** observed that the documentation team had been working non stop to support the motions process in the best way possible and asked for Members' patience and understanding given the challenges involved. The Resolutions Committee was doing its best to respond as fast as possible to the enormous number of messages received from Members, including suggestions for improving translations.

If a Member wished to propose or comment on amendments to a motion that was still with a Contact Group, but was unable to attend the relevant Contact Group meeting, it would assist the process greatly if the Member concerned communicated their position in writing or arranged to have their views represented by another Member. Members had the right to propose amendments in plenary but this brought the risk of destabilising the sometimes hard-won consensus reached in Contact Groups.

The **Chair** gave the floor to the **Chair of the Governance Committee** for an update on the six governance-related motions.

The **Chair of the Governance Committee** (Margaret Beckel) reported that the Contact Group established to discuss **Motion A** – *Including regional governments in the structure of the Union* was close to reaching consensus but that the facilitator had recommended a final meeting later that day. As previously reported, during the 5th Sitting, the remaining five governance-related motions, Motions B–F, were ready for plenary discussion and voting, either in their original form, or with only a small number of amendments.

The **Chair** concluded that ten motions, covering both conservation/policy and governance categories, were ready for plenary discussion and voting.

Environment and Conservation Organizations of New Zealand (New Zealand) raised concerns that discussion of motions had been largely restricted to Contact Groups operating under severe time constraints during the early mornings, late evenings, lunchbreaks and the excursion day, often at overlapping times.

The **Chair** responded that the motions process had been approved by Members and the Assembly needed to proceed accordingly.

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** concurred that there had been challenges with the scheduling of Contact Groups and recalled that the motions process introduced for the present Congress would be reviewed to identify possible improvements for the future.

Center for Environmental Legal Studies (USA) raised a Point of Order requesting information on the outcome of its appeal against the decision of the Resolutions Committee to reject the motion on *Conservation in the South China Sea* as not meeting the criteria laid down in Rule 52 of the Rules of Procedure.

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** confirmed that he would address this matter at a later point of the current agenda item.

Ecological Society of the Philippines (Philippines) raised a Point of Order, calling for the outcome of the appeal concerning the South China Sea to be communicated to Members immediately and for a vote on that motion to be held forthwith.

The **Chair** ruled that this issue would be addressed at a later point of the agenda, following consideration of those motions that were ready for plenary discussion and voting, as had already been confirmed.

Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation supported the views of Environment & Conservation of New Zealand concerning the Contact Group process and urged that Motion 007 concerning closure of domestic ivory markets be brought forward for voting.

The Chair proceeded to discussion and voting for the ten motions identified by the **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** as being ready for plenary debate. For each motion the text emerging from Contact Group discussions was briefly introduced by the **Chair of the Resolutions Committee**, who drew attention to any points where it had not been possible to reach consensus. The **Chair** then opened the floor for discussion, followed by electronic voting, before proceeding to the next motion. The following is a summary of the outcome for each motion.

Motion 026 – *Protected areas and other areas important for biodiversity in relation to environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure development*

The revised text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 13

Congress ADOPTS Motion 026.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council provided the following explanation of vote, for the record, in relation to Motion 026:

“The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (WPRFMC) has long recognized the value of protected areas as one of the tools in managing fisheries, when such areas are designated using a transparent, science-based process. We also support the use of selective fishing gear to minimize ecosystem impacts, as demonstrated by our track record of prohibiting drift gillnets, bottom trawls and other potentially destructive gear types in the 1980s.

WPRFMC initially did not support this motion due to the lack of a clear definition for the term “environmentally damaging industrial scale activities” and in particular, whether fisheries are considered to be one of those activities. Further, the IUCN Protected Areas Categories include “Habitat/species management area” which may be compatible with certain types of extractive uses. These issues were clarified in the Contact Group discussions, and the amended text reflected those clarifications.

However, we remain concerned that the motion does not explicitly exclude managed commercial fisheries from the definition of environmentally damaging or industrial activities. We strongly believe that the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable commercial fishing are compatible. For this reason, we are not able to support this motion at this time.”

Motion 037 – Supporting privately protected areas

The revised text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 14

Congress ADOPTS Motion 037.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

Motion 053 – Increasing marine protected area coverage for effective marine biodiversity conservation

The revised text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 15

Congress ADOPTS Motion 053.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

The Ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Développement international (France), provided the following statement for the record concerning Motion 053:

“France supports Motion 053. Concerning the inclusion of “the rights of indigenous peoples”, France interprets the terminology used in the IUCN Programme as creating no additional rights to those that France recognises in its national legislation and within the framework of the United Nations.”

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process. The US Government provided the following statement for the record:

“The US strongly endorses well-defined, well-managed, connected, and representative networks of MPAs as important tools to conserve the ocean. Towards this end the United States believes that additional internal and external dialogue, with stakeholders, scientists, and MPA programs, is needed to determine a new, appropriate global target beyond the current 10% target.”

Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council provided the following explanation of vote, for the record, in relation to Motion 053:

“The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (WPRFMC) supports the conservation of biological diversity within national waters and in areas beyond national jurisdiction. We further support science-based management measures that address existing or potential threats to marine resources. However, we strongly believe that the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable fisheries management regimes are compatible. We do not support the establishment of marine protected areas just for the sake of it. Establishing MPAs requires the identification of clear objectives, strict monitoring, and comprehensive enforcement—they are one of many tools used for marine resource management.

For example, effective management of pelagic tuna fisheries has been demonstrated by the WPRFMC to reduce interactions with sea turtles, sea birds, marine mammals, and sharks. The current level of interactions by the Hawaii longline fishery with these highly mobile species are not threatening their continued existence and these populations continue to play integral roles in Central Pacific pelagic food web and ecosystem. Measures to reduce impacts on these species include marine protected areas, but conservation also depends on input and output controls and gear modification.

This motion places unwavering confidence in MPAs, without providing due consideration to other marine resource management tools. We remain unconvinced that MPAs are the only solution to effective management of marine biodiversity, and MPAs are particularly problematic for highly migratory species such as tunas. For example, the two high seas pockets that were closed to purse seine fishing by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission in 2010 did not result in conservation benefits to tuna stocks, but served to only displace fishing effort. Some of that displaced effort was concentrated in areas believed to be important tuna spawning grounds. The effects of displaced fishing effort, and impacts on fishing communities and local food security, need to be addressed before the establishment of any MPA. In addition, MPAs need to be monitored and enforced and the motion does not address these critical components of effective marine resource management. Small Island Developing States and Territories need administrative capacity and financial resources to establish, monitor, and enforce a network of MPAs, but this motion lacks any recognition of these important issues. We view this motion as an example of an MPA agenda that does not recognize sustainable fisheries management or adaptive management. For these reasons, we will be voting no on this motion.”

Motion 059 – IUCN response to the Paris Climate Change Agreement

The revised text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 16

Congress ADOPTS Motion 059.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

Motion 061 – Take greater account of the ocean in the climate regime

The revised text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 17

Congress ADOPTS Motion 061.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council provided the following explanation of vote, for the record, in relation to Motion 061:

“The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (WPRFMC) supports science-based management measures that address existing or potential threats to marine resources. We also strongly believe that the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable commercial fishing are compatible.

With regard to this motion, we are concerned about the focus and over-reliance of marine protected areas designated and promoted by high-level international groups as a primary response for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

While the ocean is currently a natural carbon sink, absorbing about 25 percent CO₂, the IPCC Special Report on Carbon Dioxide Capture and Storage suggests that eventually pH of the ocean will drop resulting in the disruption of life in the sea which may turn it into a CO₂ source rather than a sink. The amount of carbon sequestration may not be the same in all parts of the ocean, and research on carbon sequestration in deep, offshore waters is urgently needed. Instead of prematurely establishing marine reserves, more focus should be on research so the reserves are properly sited and sized.

Marine reserves in contemporary times tend to have permanent or expanding boundaries with little monitoring and research to support that they are meeting the goals for which they were established and with no mechanism to shrink or relocate the reserves if they prove to be inadequately established or sited.

The international bodies now involved in marine reserves promotion and support tend to be heavily comprised of stakeholders interested in species protection and biodiversity. Consideration of the human dimension, for example fishing communities and existing fisheries management, is sorely lacking and should be included in the discussions early.

Efforts are underway to increase the current Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 from 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas being conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas to 30 percent of the oceans set aside as marine reserves. This numbers game has resulted in the creation of large marine protected areas principally in remote area, which runs counter to several papers that recommend smaller protected areas by and near human communities that utilize the resources.

For these reasons, among others, WPRFMC is unable to support this motion at this time, but looks forward to future discussion that is focused directly on local community engagement rather than a proposal that supports high-level international groups.”

Motion 063 – Natural Capital

The revised text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 18
Congress ADOPTS Motion 063.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

Motion 064 – IUCN Policy on Biodiversity Offsets

The revised text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 19
Congress ADOPTS Motion 064.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

Motion 090 – A path forward to address concerns over the use of lead ammunition in hunting

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** recalled that the text tabled by the Contact Group included two options for the wording of paragraph 2 b. In conformity with the Rules of Procedure, Option 1 should be voted on first as it represented the greater departure from the original text. If Option 1 was approved, there would not be a vote on Option 2.

The **Chair** opened the floor to interventions.

International Council for Game & Wildlife Conservancy noted with concern that an unofficial paper supporting one of the two options had been distributed in the plenary hall that morning. However, the Secretariat had acted promptly to remove all copies.

European Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation (FACE) drew attention to its concerns about Option 1 and called on Members to support Option 2.

Baanhn Beli (Pakistan), **Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust** (UK), **Natural Resources Defense Council** (USA), **Nature Conservation Egypt**, **Frankfurt Zoological Society** (Germany), **SEO/BirdLife**, **Sociedad Española de Ornitología** (Spain) and **Royal Society for the Protection of Birds** (UK) all spoke in support of Option 1.

No proposals for amendments were made and there being no further requests for the floor the **Chair** opened the vote on Option 1 for operative paragraph 2 b.

Congress voted in favour of Option 1.

DECISION 20

Congress ADOPTS Option1 for operative paragraph 2 b of Motion 090.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

The **Chair** opened the vote on the motion as a whole, comprising the revised text from the Contact Group, with the inclusion of Option1 for operative paragraph 2 b.

Congress voted in favour of the motion, including Option 1 for operative paragraph 2 b.

DECISION 21

Congress ADOPTS Motion 090, as amended.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

Motion 100 – *Two dams on the Santa Cruz River in Argentina: their impact on an irreplaceable ecosystem and on the hooded grebe (Podiceps gallardoi) population, a Critically Endangered species endemic to Argentina*

Following a vote on this motion, the **Chair** ruled that the electronic voting system had misinterpreted the overall result. The headline displayed on the plenary hall screens indicated ‘Not approved’, whereas the detailed voting statistics showed clearly that it had been approved in both houses. He deferred validating the result of the vote until the 7th Sitting, pending further advice from the technical team responsible for the system.

Motion 103 – *Vicuña (Vicugna vicugna) conservation and the illegal trade in its fibre*

The revised text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 22

Congress ADOPTS Motion 103.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** reported that this completed consideration of the ten motions scheduled for consideration by the 6th Sitting. Ten additional conservation/policy motions were still at various stages of being finalised and would be brought before plenary as soon as possible, some during the 7th Sitting later in the day.

The **Chair** proceeded to consideration of the five governance-related motions that had earlier been tabled by the **Chair of the Governance Committee of Congress** as being ready for plenary discussion and voting. One-by-one, each motion was introduced with a reiteration of the conclusions reached by the relevant Contact Group. The Chair then opened the floor for discussion, followed by voting, before moving on to the next motion. The following is a summary of outcomes:

Motion B – *Including indigenous peoples' organisations in the structure of the Union*

The revised text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 23

Congress ADOPTS Motion B.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

Ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Développement international (France), provided the following statement for the record concerning Motion B:

“France cannot support Motion B insofar as, by virtue of the French people’s principles of indivisibility, equality and non-discrimination that are enshrined in its Constitution, France does not recognise the notion of ‘indigenous peoples’ and would be unable to accept the recognition, as a Member of IUCN, of entities not recognised by one or more States.”

Motion C – *Election of the IUCN President*

There being no amendments arising from the Contact Group on this motion, the original text was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 24

Congress ADOPTS Motion C.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

Motion D – *Members' Assembly's sole authority to amend the Regulations pertaining to the objectives, nature of the membership and membership criteria (follow-up to decision 22 of the 2012 World Conservation Congress)*

The **Chair of the Governance Committee** explained that square-bracketed text in paragraph 102 (c) required the Assembly to make a choice between a two-month deadline or a three-month deadline for the submission of comments or objections. This option needed be put to the vote first, followed by a vote on the motion as a whole.

The revised text arising from the Contact Group on this motion, including in Article 102 paragraph (c) a period of *“three months to submit comments or objections”*, was approved without further amendment.

DECISION 25

Congress ADOPTS the amendment to Article 102 paragraph (c) of Motion D.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

DECISION 26

Congress ADOPTS Motion D, as amended.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

Motion E – *Enhanced practice and reforms of IUCN's governance*

The revised text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 27

Congress ADOPTS Motion E, as amended.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

Motion F – *Proposed amendment to Article 6 of the IUCN Statutes concerning the dues of State and political/economic integration organisation Members adhering to IUCN*

The **Chair of the Governance Committee** stated that the original text of the motion was being tabled for plenary consideration, although the Contact Group had agreed on a recommendation to accompany the motion following its adoption.⁴

The original text of this motion was adopted without amendment.

DECISION 28

Congress ADOPTS Motion F.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

Noting that all motions ready for consideration by the 6th Sitting had now been dealt with, the **Chair** turned to the decision of the Steering Committee of Congress in relation to the appeal against the decision of the Resolutions Committee of Congress to reject the motion on the South China Sea as not meeting the criteria laid down in Rule 52 of the Rules of Procedure. The IUCN President had recused himself during discussion of the appeal and the Steering Committee's deliberations had instead had been chaired by himself (Malik Amin Aslam Khan) and **Vice-President John Robinson**, whom he invited to the podium.

The **Chair** made the following statement:

“The Steering Committee has confirmed and decided to uphold the decision of the Resolutions Committee to reject the motion entitled ‘Conservation in the South China Sea’. The Steering Committee carefully and judiciously considered the motion, the appeal and the eligibility criteria for taking this motion into consideration at a very late stage. We had a very long deliberation on the issue, going late into the night yesterday night. The main issue was to define what the issue of the motion’s operative paragraph was. We decided that the issue at hand was the protected areas to be established in the Coral Triangle and South China Sea. After a lot of deliberation we agreed that the decision taken by the Resolutions Committee was the correct one because this issue was not a new issue. It was an issue on which the information was already in the public domain prior to February 12th, which was the cut-off date for having raised this issue through a motion. So on that basis, we decided to uphold the decision of the Resolutions Committee.”

⁴ The Contact Group's recommendation reads: “That the Membership Dues Guide put in place rules regarding the timing of the first payment, considering budgetary cycles, and regarding interaction between IUCN and the prospective Member to facilitate payment of dues and prior to their payment.”

Vice President John Robinson, Chair of the Steering Committee of Congress added that:

“The important distinction that we were grappling with was, ‘What exactly is the issue that we are focusing on?’ The conservation issue was not new. There was a new political context created by the arbitration panel, but that did not affect the conservation issue per se. So it was on the basis of that logic that the Steering Committee supported the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee.”

Intervening on a Point of Order, **Center for Environmental Legal Studies (USA)** stated:

“Concerning the motion at hand on the South China Sea, we recognise the Steering Committee’s decision and we want to enquire as to the procedure for putting it before the full plenary. The Members have rights and they have the right to consider this for themselves.”

The **Chair** confirmed that there was a right of challenge against the decision of the Steering Committee to reject the appeal and this matter could be taken up during the 7th Sitting if the Member concerned decided to exercise this right.

7th Sitting of the Members' Assembly

Friday 9 September 2016 (14.30–20.00)

Agenda item 7.1 – Presentation of candidates for positions of Commission Chairs, Treasurer and President followed by electronic election of the IUCN President, Treasurer and six Commission Chairs.

This agenda item was chaired by **IUCN Vice-President Malik Amin Aslam Khan** (Regional Councillor for South and East Asia).

At the request of the **Chair**, the **Election Officer** (Michael D. Wilson) explained that, following candidate presentations, the ballot would commence with six rounds of voting to elect the Commission Chairs, i.e. one round per Commission. This would be followed by one round of voting for the position of Treasurer and one round for the position of President. He reminded Members of the features and use of the electronic voting system, which would be the same as that used for the election of Regional Councillors.

Presentations of Candidates for Commission Chairs

The **Chair** invited all ten candidates for the six Commission Chair positions to the podium. Taking the Commissions in alphabetical order he asked each candidate to address the two questions indicated below, of which they had received prior notice in order to prepare their answers, speaking for a maximum of five minutes in response to the first question and one minute to the second question:

- Question 1 – *How will you implement the mandate/priorities for your respective Commissions; and how will you bring to bear your personal strengths to lead your respective Commissions?*
- Question 2 – *How do you intend to organise your work and life to meet the responsibilities of chairing a Commission, taking into account that you may already have an existing workload or carry responsibilities outside?*

The **Candidates** spoke as follows:

Candidate for Chair of Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM)

- Angela ANDRADE (Colombia)

Candidates for Chair of Commission on Education and Communication (CEC)

- Katalin CZIPPÁN (Hungary)
- Sean SOUTHEY (Canada/South Africa)

Candidates for Chair of Commission on Environmental, Economic & Social Policy (CEESP)

- Meher NOSHIRWANI (Pakistan)
- Kristen WALKER PAINEMILLA (USA)

Candidates for Chair of Species Survival Commission (SSC)

- Elizabeth BENNETT (United Kingdom)
- Jon Paul RODRIGUEZ (Venezuela)

Candidate for Chair of World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL)

- Antonio BENJAMIN (Brazil)

Candidates for Chair of World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)

- Christophe LEFEBVRE (France)
- Kathy MACKINNON (United Kingdom)

Presentation of Candidate for Treasurer

The **Chair** invited the **candidate for IUCN Treasurer**, Patrick DE HENEY (Switzerland, United Kingdom), to speak for up to five minutes.

Presentation of Candidate for President

The **Chair** invited the **candidate for IUCN President**, ZHANG Xinsheng (China), to speak for up to eight minutes.

In response to a question from **AWAZ Foundation Pakistan: Center for Development Studies** (Pakistan), the **Members' Assembly Manager** (Luc De Wever) explained that there would be no immediate announcement of results after the ballot because time would be needed for the Election Officer to review and validate the results before presenting them to the Assembly towards the end of the 7th Sitting that evening.

At the request of the **Chair** the **Election Officer** repeated his earlier summary of the election process and use of the electronic voting system. He confirmed that all elections were by secret ballot.

Election of Commission Chairs

The **Chair** recalled that in the case of a Commission with only one candidate, Members would be invited to vote 'Yes', 'No' or 'Abstain'. In the case of Commissions for which there were two candidates, Members would be invited to select their preferred candidate by pressing the key corresponding to that candidate as indicated on the plenary hall screens.

The **Chair** proceeded to open the voting for each Commission, taking the Commissions and candidates in the order in which candidate presentations had been made.

Elections of Treasurer and President

The **Chair** proceeded to open the voting for the position of Treasurer, followed by the position of President, reminding Members that in each case they were being invited to vote 'Yes', 'No', or 'Abstain' for the single candidate.

The **Election Officer** confirmed that the ballot had been completed and that he would present the results to the Assembly at approximately 19.40 hrs, prior to the close of the 7th Sitting.

Agenda item 7.2 – Report by the Director General and the Treasurer on the finances of IUCN in the period 2012–2016

This agenda item was chaired by the **President** (Xinsheng Zhang) who advised that motions would be addressed later in the Sitting, under agenda item 7.5. The Assembly was now asked to turn its attention to the financial matters under agenda items 7.2, 7.3 and 7.4, which would be taken together.

The **Director General** (Inger Andersen) referred Members to Congress Documents WCC-2016-7.2-2 *Report of the Director General and Treasurer 2013–2016* and WCC-2016-7.2-1 *Finances of IUCN 2012–2016*, together with the four Annexes to the latter document: WCC-2016-7.2-1-Annex 1 *IUCN Audit Report and Financial Statements 2012*, WCC-2016-7.2-1-Annex 2 *IUCN Audit Report and Financial Statements 2013*, WCC-2016-7.2-1-Annex 3 *IUCN Audit Report and Financial Statements 2014* and WCC-2016-7.2-1-Annex 4 *IUCN Audit Report and Financial Statements 2015*.

The **Treasurer** (Patrick de Heney) presented information on IUCN's financial performance during the intersessional period, beginning with a review of income and expenditure against the approved Financial Plan for 2012–2016. He noted that even though income targets had not been fully reached, steady growth had been achieved. He recapped the three main sources of income, namely membership dues, framework income and project income. Among key points were the following:

- In 2012, the overall result was a breakeven situation, while in 2013 and 2014, a surplus of CHF 3M had been achieved, due to the performance of financial investments and the sale of a real estate asset. In 2015, a surplus of CHF 1M had been achieved, but a net deficit of CHF 2M was forecast for 2016, as a consequence of a reduction in framework income – reflecting a shift in funding priorities for some framework partners – combined with a requirement to make provision for restructuring costs.
- Reserves had increased from a low of CHF 14M in 2012 to stand at CHF 21M at the end of 2015.
- The number of Members had increased from 1,279 at the end of 2012 to its current level of 1,394 with a corresponding increase in the value of membership fees from CHF 11.5M in 2012 to a forecast level of CHF 12.8M in 2016.
- The Netherlands had ceased to be a framework partner with effect from the end of 2012, but the Republic of Korea had become a new framework donor. In 2016, some framework donors had reduced their contribution levels due to changing priorities (Finland, Sweden,) and the fall in the price of oil (United Arab Emirates).
- Framework income was steady in 2013 and 2014 but declined in 2015, in Swiss franc terms, as a result of the decoupling of the Swiss franc from the Euro and the strengthening of the Swiss franc that followed. This effect had been partially compensated by a foreign currency hedging strategy.
- Project income had seen healthy growth, increasing by about one-third to reach a projected level of CHF 91M in 2016. The overall value of IUCN's project portfolio had also grown significantly, from CHF 242M in 2013 to over CHF 300M in 2016, and was expected to reach CHF 450M during the next intersessional period.
- Over the next four years, there would be a strategic shift away from single projects to global and regional thematic initiatives and towards grant-making and implementing agency projects.

The **Treasurer** noted that the Union's finances had been examined by two different external auditors during the period under review, switching from Deloitte in 2012 to PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) for the period 2013–2015, as part of a healthy limitation of mandate. All reports received from the external auditors had provided unqualified endorsements of IUCN's financial statements. The auditors

had, however, provided a number of recommendations for the improvement of certain controls and financial processes and the Secretariat had responded accordingly, in particular by:

- Strengthening of reporting relationships between regional and country offices and headquarters;
- Introducing matrix management of finances;
- Strengthening oversight of key balance-sheet items;
- Adopting a risk-based approach to the internal financial control framework;
- Improving monitoring of expenditure by implementing partners, including through introduction of formal due diligence processes and enhanced reporting procedures; and
- Strengthening of IT governance, systems and processes through establishment of an Information Systems Steering Committee, introduction of new IT policies, and a programme of standardisation for the Secretariat's global IT infrastructure to reduce costs and improve performance, including implementation of an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system.

Agenda item 7.3 – Report of the Congress Finance and Audit Committee on and Congress approval of the Audited Financial Statements for the years 2012–2015

The **President** gave the floor to the **Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee of Congress** (FACC) to report on the Committee's findings and recommendations regarding the audited financial statements presented to the Assembly for approval.

The **Chair of FACC** (Spencer Thomas) reported that, in accordance with its Terms of Reference, the Committee had met on two occasions to review the audited financial statements and corresponding audit reports for the years 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015, together with management letters issued by the external auditors, and the report to Congress prepared jointly by the Treasurer and the Director General. He underlined that the audit reports for all four years had been unqualified. He reiterated that the forecast operating deficit of CHF 1M for 2016 could be largely attributed to a decline in framework income and acknowledged that the deficit could rise as a result of restructuring costs that might be incurred in 2016. In the Committee's view, matters raised in management letters prepared by the external auditors had been, or were being, satisfactorily addressed. The Committee therefore recommended that the Members' Assembly should approve the Financial Statements for the years 2012 to 2015.

Agenda item 7.4 – Appointment of the external auditors

The **Chair of FACC** reported that the Committee had reviewed the competitive process undertaken to select the external auditors prior to the 2012 Congress and which had resulted in PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) being appointed external auditors by the 2012 Congress for the years 2013–2016, succeeding Deloitte. FACC had noted that Council had been satisfied with the performance of PwC, which had built up a good knowledge of the Union, and had therefore concluded that there would be no advantage in changing auditors at the present time. The Committee therefore endorsed the recommendation of Council that PwC be appointed as external auditors for the intersessional period 2017–2020.

The **President** opened the floor for comments and questions in relation to the presentations made under Agenda items 7.2, 7.3 and 7.4.

Interventions were made by **Green Line** (Lebanon), **AWAZ Foundation Pakistan: Center for Development Services** (Pakistan), **Bahrain Women Association – for Human Development** (Bahrain), **Centre de Suivi Ecologique** (Senegal), **Baanhn Beli** (Pakistan), **CHIMBO Foundation** (Netherlands), **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** (China), **Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies** (Bangladesh), **Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism** (Botswana), **Ethiopian Wildlife**

Conservation Authority (Ethiopia) and Ministère de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable (Senegal).

Among the points raised, all of which related to agenda item 7.2 *Report by the Director General and the Treasurer on the finances of IUCN in the period 2012–2016*, were:

- A number of requests for clarification of technical details contained in the Treasurer's report.
- A question about the sale of real estate referred to by the Treasurer. The **Treasurer** clarified that this had related to the one-off sale of a property gifted to IUCN in Kenya. The estate had been sold, at a fair market price, to a conservationist who had pledged to keep the land in its present condition.
- A recommendation that the significant value of voluntary time contributed by Councillors be taken into consideration as part of any overall assessment of in-kind contributions to the work of the Union.
- A note of caution that increased financial control did not necessarily translate into increased efficiency.
- A call for IUCN to ensure that the Green Climate Fund (GCF) was implemented effectively, including through relevant capacity building, to act a backstop for developing countries as they tried to adapt to the challenges of climate change. The **Director General** noted that IUCN's ability to play such a role, within either the GCF or the Global Environment Facility, depended in large part on being invited to do so by the relevant national focal point.
- Suggestions for steps that IUCN might take to strengthen its strategic approach to investments and expanding its donor base. The **Treasurer** noted that an external asset manager was in place, while the **Director General** highlighted the priority already being given to working with potential donors from foundations and the private sector.

The **President** invited **Members** to proceed to decisions on financial matters.

Congress took the following decisions: [[voting record](#)]:

DECISION 29

Congress TAKES NOTE OF the Report of the Director General and Treasurer on the Finances of IUCN in the period 2012–2016, and APPROVES the [Audited Financial Statements for the years 2012–2015](#).

[[voting record](#)]:

DECISION 30

Congress APPOINTS PricewaterhouseCoopers as IUCN External Auditors for the years 2017–2020.

Following a Point of Order raised by **CHIMBO Foundation** the **Chair** advised that time could be allocated during the discussion of the Financial Plan 2017–2020, scheduled during the 8th Sitting on 10 September, for the **Treasurer** and/or **Director General** to provide additional responses to those questions raised by Members but which had not been fully addressed during the present agenda item.

Agenda item 7.5 – Progress report of the Resolutions Committee followed by discussion and vote on Motions

This agenda item was chaired by **IUCN Vice-President Amin Malik Aslam Khan** (Regional Councillor for South and East Asia).

The **Chair** invited the **Chair of the Resolutions Committee of Congress** to present an update on the motions process.

Environment & Conservation Organizations of New Zealand, supported by **Green Line** (Lebanon), raised a Point of Order stating that Members were experiencing difficulties in accessing the motions portal of the Congress website due to the impact on the plenary hall Wi-Fi system of the continued use of personal hotspots, in spite of repeated requests from the organisers that these should be turned off. Further consideration of motions should be deferred until Members had been able to review the revised texts.

The **Chair** urged that, in the interests of time, the agenda item should proceed as planned, beginning with a full update from the **Chair of the Resolutions Committee**. He asked Members once again to turn off personal hotspots in order not to disrupt the IT system,

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** summarised the status of each remaining motion, in the order in which they would be tabled for discussion and adoption by plenary:

Motion 100 – *Two dams on the Santa Cruz River in Argentina: their impact on an irreplaceable ecosystem and on the hooded grebe (Podiceps gallardoi) population, a Critically Endangered species endemic to Argentina.*

This motion had been voted on during the 6th Sitting but an algorithm error had caused the result of the vote to be misread by the system. The vote would therefore need to be taken again.

Motion 065 – *Improving standards in ecotourism*

The Contact Group had now reached consensus on the text, which was ready for plenary consideration and voting.

Motion 066 – *Mitigating the impacts of oil palm expansion and operations on biodiversity*

The Contact Group had now reached consensus on the text, which was ready for plenary consideration and voting.

Motion 048bis – *Assessing the global applicability of the concept of ancient forests as understood in European forest policy and management*

This was one of two Motions emerging from the original text of Motion 048. The Contact Group for Motion 048bis had now reached consensus on the text, which was ready for plenary consideration and voting.

Motion 101 – *South Atlantic Whale Sanctuary*

The Contact Group had now reached consensus on the text, which was ready for plenary consideration and voting.

Motion 105 – *Support for peace and nature in Colombia*

Only editorial changes had been made and there was full Contact Group consensus on the resulting text, which was now ready for plenary consideration and voting.

Motion 102 – *Urging the Congress of the Republic of Peru to shelve permanently the bill that proposes the construction of a road through the Alto Purús National Park, the Purús Communal Reserve and the Madre de Dios Territorial Reserve for Indigenous Peoples*

The Contact Group had reached consensus on the text, which was now ready for plenary consideration and voting.

Motion 048 – *Protection of primary forests including intact forest landscapes*

The revised text of Motion 048, as agreed by the Contact Group following the split of the original motion to form two separate motions, was currently being finalised by the documentation team and would be made available shortly.

Motion 49 – Advancing conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction

A Contact Group meeting held earlier that day had successfully reached consensus with the exception of one issue. The revised text was being tabled for plenary consideration and voting, but it was understood that a member of the Contact Group might wish to take the floor to address the remaining unresolved issue.

Motion 104 – Support for increased conservation effort for Hawai'i's threatened birds

A Contact Group meeting held earlier that day had reached consensus on the text, which was now ready for plenary consideration and voting.

Motion 007 – Closure of Domestic Markets for Elephant Ivory

The Resolutions Committee had met during the break between the 6th and 7th Sittings to consider concerns raised by some Members that the text emerging from the Contact Group did not have their support. The task of the Committee was to make a determination of when texts were ready for submission to plenary. When Members raised concerns with the Committee, those concerns needed to be taken seriously and the Committee was obligated to ensure fairness to all Members. The Resolutions Committee had concluded that the best way forward would be to give a final opportunity for the Contact Group to meet, in order to try and arrive at a text everybody could live with. A meeting of the Contact Group would therefore be scheduled for the evening of Friday 9 September.

A Point of Order was raised by **Wildlife Conservation Authority** (Ethiopia) concerning the explanation given by the **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** in relation to Motion 007. The present text had been agreed by the overwhelming majority of the Contact Group following lengthy discussions. The motion should now be tabled in plenary on the basis of majority support, in accordance with Rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure.

The **Legal Adviser** confirmed that Rule 56 addressed the matter of motion texts arising from Contact Groups, but under that Rule it was the prerogative of the Resolutions Committee to determine when a motion was ready to be tabled in plenary.

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** confirmed that the Committee had not yet tabled Motion 007 for plenary discussion and voting pending a final attempt to reach consensus in the Contact Group.

The **Chair** ruled that the Assembly would return to Motion 007 at a later point.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development (France) and **Association of Tropical Biology and Conservation** raised Points of Order objecting to the position presented by the **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** and the ruling made by the **Chair** to defer consideration of Motion 007.

The World Association of Zoos and Aquariums raised a Point of Order advising that the text currently appearing on the motions portal was tagged 'version sent to plenary'. This was the text that had been agreed by the second meeting of the Contact Group.

Ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Développement international (France) raised further Points of Order stating that in not tabling Motion 007 for adoption the Resolutions Committee had taken upon itself a decision that ought to be taken by the Assembly. France was therefore requesting clarification of why the Motion was being referred back to the Contact Group which had already wrapped up its work, and asking for a vote on this decision of the Resolutions Committee.

The **Chair** ruled that the Resolutions Committee had acted within the Rules of Procedure and recalled that the Chair of the Resolutions Committee had made clear that Motion 007 would be tabled for plenary discussion and adoption in due course.

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** commented that the text agreed by the Contact Group did not represent a consensus of all those who had participated in the Group. The primary concern of the Resolutions Committee was to facilitate as broad as possible a consensus of IUCN Members; the aim was to increase the voice of Members, not to reduce it.

The **Chair** proceeded with opening motions for discussion and adoption in the order that had been presented by the Chair of the Resolutions Committee.

Following a Point of Order raised by **Environment & Conservation Organizations of New Zealand**, the sequence of motions was displayed on the plenary hall screens for the benefit of Members.

The outcome of the discussion and voting on each motion was as follows:

Motion 100 *Two dams on the Santa Cruz River in Argentina: Their impact on an irreplaceable ecosystem and on the hooded grebe (Podiceps gallardoi) population, a Critically Endangered species endemic to Argentina*

A second vote on this motion took place as a result of the technical problem encountered during the 6th Sitting. The text (as submitted to the 6th Sitting and previously agreed by the relevant Contact Group) was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 31

Congress ADOPTS Motion 100.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

Motion 065 – *Improving standards in ecotourism*

The text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 32

Congress ADOPTS Motion 065.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

Motion 066 – *Mitigating the impacts of oil palm expansion and operations on biodiversity*

The text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 33

Congress ADOPTS Motion 066.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

Motion 048bis – *Assessing the global applicability of the concept of ancient forests as understood in European forest policy and management*

The text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment, though **Comité national de l’UICN, France** noted that an editorial correction was required to the French text of the motion title.

DECISION 34

Congress ADOPTS Motion 048bis.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

Motion 101 – *South Atlantic Whale Sanctuary*

The text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 35

Congress ADOPTS Motion 101.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

Motion 105 – *Support for peace and nature in Colombia*

The text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

DECISION 36

Congress ADOPTS Motion 105.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

Motion 102 – *Urging the Congress of the Republic of Peru to shelve permanently the bill that proposes the construction of a road that will affect the Alto Purús National Park and other areas*

The text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 37

Congress ADOPTS Motion 102.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

Motion 104 – *Support for increased conservation effort for Hawai'i's threatened birds*

The text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 38

Congress ADOPTS Motion 104.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

Motion 048 – *Protection of primary forests, including intact forest landscapes*

Discussion and voting on this motion was deferred, pending finalization of the text by the documentation team.

Motion 049 – *Advancing conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction*

The text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was adopted without further amendment.

DECISION 39

Congress ADOPTS Motion 049.

[\[voting record:\]](#)

Following adoption of Motion 049, **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** (Japan) requested clarification concerning the inclusion of language that had been square-bracketed by the Contact Group.

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** quoted his earlier statement in which he had noted that the Contact Group had “*successfully arrived at consensus on the text... except for ‘including cumulative impacts’ in paragraph 1 b*” and his understanding from the Contact Group facilitator and motion manager “*that there might be a Member wishing to take the floor on this issue*”. No Member had taken the floor and the vote had now taken place. However, there was a mechanism for Members to write into the record any comment they might wish to make in relation to any motion.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council provided the following explanation of vote, for the record, in relation to Motion 049:

“The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council supports the conservation of biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. We further support that, like UNCLOS and UN Fish Stocks Agreement, that any new legally binding instrument maintain the principle that decisions made pertaining to international waters be based on the best available scientific information. Although we support this motion, we remain concerned, that proponents of this initiative are hoping that the new convention may be established to supersede existing regional fishery management organizations.

We recognize that some RFMOs have their shortcomings, but some are much further along. A prime example of an RFMO that has the legally binding framework to take into account marine biodiversity protection of pelagic ecosystem is the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). Established in 2000 under the Honolulu Convention, the WCPFC builds off of UNCLOS and UNFSA, incorporates the precautionary approach, and requires members to protect marine biodiversity including non-target and protect species. RFMOs that have the legal framework to carry out protection of marine diversity, such as the WCPFC, should not be subordinate to a new international convention as this would be duplicative and unnecessary.”

The **Chair** observed that all of the conservation policy motions tabled by the Resolutions Committee as ready for plenary had now been dealt with. He invited the **Chair of the Governance Committee of Congress** to update Members on progress of governance-related Motion A – *Including regional governments in the structure of the Union*.

The **Chair of the Governance Committee of Congress** (Margaret Beckel) reported that the final Contact Group meeting had reached consensus on Motion A. Part of the consensus was to present two differing options to plenary. The text would be posted later that day, ready for plenary consideration during the 8th Sitting.

The **Chair** turned to the issue of the proposed motion on the South China Sea. He recalled that the motion had been rejected by the Resolutions Committee and that the Steering Committee of Congress had upheld that decision on appeal. He invited the original proponent of the rejected motion to take the floor.

Center for Environmental Legal Studies presented the following statement:

“The UN Convention on the Law of Sea mandates protection of the oceans and encourages regional cooperation in managing the marine environment. The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development declares that “peace, development and environmental protection are inter-dependent and indivisible.”

We are not here to opine on the conduct between nations, but to advocate for the rule of law in environmental protection. There is a long-recognized system of using peace parks and protected areas to achieve conservation and resolve inter-state conflict. At the end of the day this is about preserving the ecosystems that replenish our oceans, and protecting them for the benefit of present and future generations.

We sponsored this motion because we respect the rule of law and an international court has made an environmental finding, but respecting the process of this Congress, we are not pursuing an appeal to the Members, and we withdraw our support of the original motion. But we acknowledge that other sponsors of the original motion have the right to appeal.”

A Point of Order was raised by **Uganda Wildlife Authority**, which indicated it had previously sought to speak in relation to another motion and that a Member from Gabon had done the same.

The **Chair** concluded that Motion 007 on ivory had already been discussed at length, the position of the Resolutions Committee was clear and the floor had been closed to further comments during the current Sitting.

Following an intervention by **Ecological Society of the Philippines** on a Point of Order and subsequent representations from the same Member, the **Chair** permitted **Ecological Society of the Philippines** to make a statement concerning the withdrawn motion on the South China Sea. The **Chair** underlined that there would be no debate on the motion since the text had not been admitted for consideration by the Assembly and had therefore not been received by Members. Furthermore, the motion had now been withdrawn by the main proponent. Consequently he did not recognise the delegate's intervention as a Point of Order but would allow a statement to be made nevertheless.

Ecological Society of the Philippines stated:

“We have been a Member of IUCN since 1978. The UN Convention on the Law of Sea mandates protection of the oceans and encourages regional cooperation in managing the marine environment. Furthermore, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development declares that “peace, development and environmental protection are inter-dependent and indivisible.” UNCLOS has a dispute resolution procedure for environmental harm in the ocean, and the Permanent Court of Arbitration took up the case of the South China Sea. After an independent environmental impact assessment, the Court found that the impact of any environmental harm occurring in the coral reefs may not be limited to the immediate area, but can affect the health and viability of ecosystems elsewhere.

We are not here to opine on the conduct between nations but to fight for conservation. There is a long-recognized system of using peace parks and protected areas to achieve conservation and resolve inter-state conflict. The South China Sea presents exactly the situation for which the concept of peace parks was created. Coral reefs in the South China Sea are among the most biodiverse marine environments in the world and continued damage will cause irreparable harm to the environmental health of the region, threatens the food security of millions, and may lead to biodiversity loss and ecological disaster in all our oceans. Measures to achieve peace and measures to ensure conservation are not mutually exclusive. Rather they are both indispensable to achieving the goal of IUCN: to “create a just world that values and conserves nature.” Conservation is more important than conflict, and at the end of the day, this is not about politics or procedure. This is about preserving the ecosystems that replenish the Pacific, and protecting them for the benefit of present and future generations. We implore all Members of IUCN. Do not delay. Vote to open this motion for debate. This is the largest conservation organization in the world and we ask for your support.”

Agenda item 7.6 – Report from the Election Officer on the results of all elections

This agenda item was chaired by **IUCN Vice-President Amin Malik Aslam Khan** (Regional Councillor for South and East Asia).

At the invitation of the **Chair**, the **Election Officer** (Justice Michael Wilson) took the floor to announce the results in the elections for the positions of Regional Councillors, Commission Chairs, Treasurer and President. This represented the end of a long journey and he assured the Assembly that every effort had been made along the way to ensure that the Statutes and Rules of Procedure had been adhered to. He extended his thanks to all those who had made possible the smooth running of the election process, as well as to Council for the confidence that had been placed in him. The [results](#) of the [elections](#) were as follows:

DECISION 40

Congress ELECTS for the period 2016–2020:

Regional Councillors

Africa

Mamadou DIALLO, Senegal
Jennifer MOHAMED-KATERERE, South Africa
Ali KAKA, Kenya
Eriyo Jesca OSUNA, Uganda

East Europe, North and Central Asia

Michael HOSEK, Czech Republic
Tamar PATARIDZE, Georgia
Rustam SAGITOV, Russian Federation

Meso and South America

Marco Vinicio CEREZO BLANDON, Guatemala
Carlos César DURIGAN, Brazil
Jenny GRUENBERGER, Bolivia
Lider SUCRE, Panama

North America and the Caribbean

Rick BATES, Canada
Sixto J. INCHAUSTEGUI, Dominican Republic
John ROBINSON, United States of America

Oceania

Andrew William BIGNELL, New Zealand
Peter Michael COCHRANE, Australia
Anna Elizabeth TIRAA, Cook Islands

South and East Asia

Amran HAMZAH, Malaysia
Masahiko HORIE, Japan
Malik Amin Aslam KHAN, Pakistan
Mangal Man SHAKYA
Youngbae SUH, Republic of Korea

West Europe

Hilde EGGERMONT, Belgium

Jonathan HUGHES, United Kingdom
Jan Olov WESTERBERG, Sweden

West Asia

Shaikha Salem AL DHAHERI, United Arab Emirates
Said Ahmad DAMHOUREYEH, Jordan
Ayman RABI, Palestine

Commission Chairs

Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM)

Angela ANDRADE (Colombia)

Commission on Education and Communication (CEC)

Sean SOUTHEY (Canada/South Africa)

World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL)

Antonio Herman BENJAMIN (Brazil)

Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP)

Kristen WALKER PAINEMILLA (USA)

Species Survival Commission (SSC)

Jon Paul RODRIGUEZ (Venezuela)

World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)

Kathy MACKINNON (United Kingdom)

Treasurer & President

Treasurer

Patrick DE HENEY (Switzerland, United Kingdom)

President

ZHANG Xinsheng (China)

The election results were endorsed by acclamation from the floor.

The **Chair** congratulated all those elected and invited the Assembly to join him in a standing ovation of appreciation for the work of Judge Michael D. Wilson in his capacity as Election Officer.

8th Sitting of the Members' Assembly

Saturday 10 September 2016 (08.30–13.45)

Agenda item 8.1 – Discussion of the Draft IUCN Financial Plan 2017–2020, Report of the Congress Finance and Audit Committee, followed by the adoption of the IUCN Financial Plan 2017–2020

The **President** (Xinsheng Zhang) gave the floor to the **Treasurer** (Patrick de Heney), the **Chief Financial Officer** (Mike Davis) and the **Director General** (Inger Andersen), who responded to pending questions raised by Members during the 7th Sitting discussion of IUCN's finances for the

period 2012–2016. They provided additional information in relation to the Union's budget management, cost reduction efforts, asset management, internal auditing, and current and future resource mobilisation. Among the points noted were the following:

- IUCN employed the services of a bank acting as an external asset manager, following a competitive selection process. A review of the bank's performance would be conducted in two years' time. IUCN's investment guidelines were available on the IUCN website. The four main principles were capital preservation, liquidity, reasonable return on investment, and socially responsible investment. Regular reports were provided to the Finance and Audit Committee (FAC) of Council.
- The internal audit team met with FAC at least twice per year to discuss the findings and recommendations of internal audit missions conducted both at headquarters and at regional and country offices. FAC was also closely involved with monitoring the implementation of internal audit recommendations.
- The work carried out by PricewaterhouseCoopers, and formerly by Deloitte, constituted full external audits in line with international auditing standards.
- The Financial Plan 2012–2016 contained a degree of ambition and whilst some targets had not been completely met, results had been close to planned targets.
- The budget was tracked month by month, looking at both costs and project/programme implementation and was reviewed every six months by FAC. Staying below budgeted costs had enabled an increase in reserves.
- A number of steps had been taken to increase efficiency, including the roll-out of the Enterprise Resource Planning system, use of electronic rather than paper-based approvals, improvement of workflows, and alignment of procedures across the organisation. There was also an element of control, in part responding to the increasing requirements of donors in this regard.
- Resource mobilisation and fundraising was an area that the DG and her team were very much focused on, including in relation to high net-worth individuals, foundations, emerging potential donors in Asia and elsewhere, as well as the private sector, keeping in mind the Union's Operational Guidelines for Business Engagement. The clear preference was for funding with as much flexibility as possible but IUCN management recognised that in most ODA circles this represented a shrinking 'bucket' of appropriations. The Union was greatly improving its ability to report on results, especially in relation to the SDGs, and it was expected this would prove a powerful motivator for donors in future.

At the invitation of the **President the Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee of Congress** (Spencer Thomas) presented the Committee's report. He confirmed that the Committee had reviewed the Financial Plan 2017–2020 (Congress document WCC-2016-2.1/2-Annex 1) and noted that:

- Unrestricted income was likely to decline, while project income was expected to increase;
- Annual project expenditure was expected to grow by 31% over the coming four-year period, driven by healthy growth in the project portfolio, primarily as a result of GEF and GCF accreditation;
- The projected results were breakeven for 2017 and 2018 and a surplus of CHF 1M in both 2019 and 2020.

The Chair of FACC had discussed proposed changes to the Programme and the potential impact of Congress motions with other Congress Committee Chairs and was satisfied that no amendments were required to the Financial Plan 2017–2020. FACC was therefore recommending that the Congress should approve the Financial Plan 2017–2020.

The **Chair** opened the floor for questions and comments.

Baanhn Beli (Pakistan) questioned whether indefinite growth was a goal of the Union and expressed concern that donors apparently wanted to shape IUCN to become a project-centric organisation.

CHIMBO Foundation (Netherlands) considered that it would be prudent to further increase IUCN's unrestricted reserves over and above the current target of CHF 25M. The financial aspects of the asset management strategy that had been outlined by the Treasurer were positive, but the social and ethical boundaries seemed quite limited; no investment by IUCN should be working against the goals of the Union. With regard to overheads, it would be important to set targets for decreasing these. Finally, efforts to assess the monetary value of the contribution made by volunteers were welcome in principle, but it would be important to avoid burdening volunteers with any additional administrative burden. The emphasis should always be on increasing efficiency.

Environmental Foundation for Africa (Sierra Leone), supported by **Association Malienne pour la conservation de la faune et de son environnement** (Mali), observed that there was sometimes competition for funding between IUCN and NGO Members. This could be detrimental to NGOs because of IUCN's huge competitive advantage. A strategy for avoiding such competition was required.

Centre de Suivi Ecologique (Senegal) sought clarification on IUCN's relationship with the Green Climate Fund and the level of project management fees received.

Te Ipukarea Society (Cook Islands) urged greater involvement of Members in the development and implementation of Green Climate Fund (GCF) projects. This would help strengthen the Union and reduce the need for building the Secretariat's own capacity.

In response to the latter point the **Director General** underlined the high priority she attached to ensuring that Members benefited from projects, particularly as new funding platforms, including GCF, became operational. About 60% of projects implemented by IUCN currently involved Members but she was committed to tracking and raising that percentage. At the same time, tracking of project implementation needed to focus on the results achieved by Members and helping to ensure financial responsibility and accountability, bearing in mind that IUCN had to work within the administrative and financial frameworks set by project donors.

Replying to Baanhn Beli (Pakistan), the **Director General** stated that it was certainly not the aim for IUCN to become a project-based organisation. Additional resource mobilisation efforts were underway, including approaches to wealthy individuals and foundations in Asia. The primary focus would continue to be on the Union as a membership organisation and securing the resources needed to support the work of the Members, Commissions and Secretariat.

In response to the point made by CHIMBO Foundation (Netherlands) about ethical and social responsibility in asset management, the **Treasurer** confirmed that the Union's investment managers were given an exclusion list, which covered both sectors and companies, and were required to report on a half-yearly basis.

The **Chief Financial Officer** provided further details on measures being undertaken to reduce overheads and control costs. One dimension of this was looking at the establishment of regional service centres to undertake functions common to multiple offices with the aim of increasing operational and budgetary efficiency.

The **President** proceeded to open voting on approval of the Financial Plan 2017–2020.

Congress took the following decision [[voting record](#)]:

Decision 41

Congress APPROVES the [IUCN Financial Plan 2017–2020](#).

Agenda item 8.2 – Report of the Governance Committee of Congress and vote on motions on IUCN governance including amendments to the Statutes

The **President** invited the **Chair of the Governance Committee of Congress** to present the Committee's report.

The **Chair of the Governance Committee** (Margaret Beckel) thanked the members of the Committee for their work on the governance-related motions. She summarised the evolution of Motion A – *Including regional governments in the structure of the Union* during three meetings of the relevant Contact Group and tabled the resulting text for plenary discussion and decision. There were two options: Option 1 would have the effect of including regional governments in the structure of the Union immediately, while Option 2 called for establishment of a working group that would make recommendations for consideration by the next Congress.

The **President** opened the floor for discussion. There were strong views for and against both options.

Speaking in favour of Option 1 (in order of taking the floor) were: **Politique scientifique fédérale** (Belgium), **Department of Territory and Sustainability, Government of Catalonia** (Spain), **League for Natural Heritage Defense** (Spain), **Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation** (Brazil), **Comité national de l'UICN, France**, **Fundación Habitat y Desarrollo** (Argentina), **Fundación Futuro Latinoamericano** (Ecuador), **AWAZ Foundation Pakistan: Center for Development Services** (Pakistan), **Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation** and **Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority**.

Supporters of Option 1 considered that IUCN had been discussing this issue for many years and now was the time for concrete action to be taken and for the Union to evolve, recognising the reality that some regional governments were already Members, albeit under the State umbrella. Regional governments had direct responsibilities for managing and conserving natural resources as well as for regulating activities that could threaten nature, and could play an important part in connecting with civil society. It was therefore vital to work with them, to give them a clearer voice within the Union and to allocate a clear role for them in implementation of the IUCN Programme.

Speaking in favour of Option 2 (in order of taking the floor) were: **Baanhn Beli** (Pakistan), **Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI)**, **Department of State, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs** (USA), **SACAN Foundation** (Pakistan), **Environment and Conservation Organizations of New Zealand**, **Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami** (Canada), **Councillor Mamadou Diallo**, **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** (China), **International Council of Environmental Law**, **Eco Redd** (Peru), **Pakistan National Committee of IUCN Members**, **Department of the Environment – Tehran** (Islamic Republic of Iran), **Bahrain Women Association – for Human Development** (Bahrain), **Association Malienne pour la conservation de la faune et de son environnement** (Mali), **Centre for Media Studies** (India) and **Centre de Suivi Ecologique** (Senegal).

Some of those speaking in favour of Option 2 supported the principle of including regional governments in the structure of the Union, but were concerned that insufficient attention had been given to the complexities involved. Others noted that any proposed change to the Statutes needed to be submitted to Members six months prior to Congress. This had been done for the original motion, but

could not be the case for amendments introduced by the Contact Group. Proponents of Option 2 also argued that this alternative offered a more considered and responsible way forward, not least with regard to adequate definition of terminology; it was better to take a little more time to arrive at a workable solution.

The **Chair of the Governance Committee** noted that the plenary debate reflected the complexity of the issues at hand, which was why two options had been prepared.

In response to a question from **Baanhn Beli** (Pakistan) about the adequacy of the definition of 'regional government' provided in Option 1, the **Legal Adviser** (Sandrine Friedli) noted that the definition was linked to five criteria. However, both the definition and associated criteria would still require interpretation on the part of Council and Members, given that every State took a different approach to local and regional governance. Ultimately it would be for States to define whether or not local or regional government entities could apply to be part of the Union.

The **President** proceeded to open voting on the two options, reminding Members that since Option 1 resulted in an amendment to the Statutes it would require a two-thirds majority in both houses in order to be approved.

Congress took the following decisions [[voting record](#)]:

Decision 42

Congress DOES NOT ADOPT Option 1 for Motion A – *Including regional governments in the structure of the Union.*

[[voting record](#)]:

Decision 43

Congress ADOPTS Option 2 for Motion A – *Including regional governments in the structure of the Union.*

The **Ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Développement international** (France) subsequently provided the following declaration of vote in relation to Option 1:

“In relation to its vote on Motion A, France interprets the amendments proposed in option 1 as not intended to lead to the granting of a voting right to regional authorities.”

State and agency Members of the United States voted against Option 1 for Motion A.

Agenda item 8.3 – Report of the Credentials Committee and approval of the membership dues 2017–2020 and of the list of Members in arrears with payment of dues and whose rights are rescinded

The **President** invited the **Chair of the Credentials Committee** to present the Committee's final report.

The **Chair of the Credentials Committee** (George Greene) recalled the composition and Terms of Reference of the Committee. He reported that there had been 928 accredited participants in the Members' Assembly, as follows:

Category A (voting and speaking rights): 129
Category B (voting and speaking rights): 704

Category C (speaking rights): 10
Recognised Regional and National Committees (speaking rights): 46
Observers (speaking rights): 1
Honorary Members and Patrons (speaking rights): 0
Councillors, Commission Chairs and Deputy Chairs, Director General and Legal Adviser (speaking rights): 38

The numbers of potential votes held by IUCN Members in good standing were:

Category A (Government and Governmental Agencies): 233 votes
Category B (International and National NGOs): 1,062 votes

Of these potential votes, the voting power of accredited Members represented at the 2016 World Conservation Congress, as of Friday 9 September 2016, was:

Category A (Government and Governmental Agencies): 199 votes (85%)
Category B (International and National NGOs): 768 votes (72%)

The **Chair of the Credentials Committee** presented additional analysis showing the participation of Members from Categories A and B who had exercised their voting rights in relation to selected decisions of the Members' Assembly.

He recalled the provisions of Articles 13 (a) and (b) of the IUCN Statutes in relation to suspension and rescission of rights of Members in arrears with payment of their membership dues and presented statistics for the number of Members eligible for rescission of their rights at the present Congress and the previous three Congresses (Bangkok 2004, Barcelona 2008 and Jeju 2012). The Committee had noted a spike in 2016, including a significant number of State Members, and recommended that an analysis be conducted to determine whether there were systemic underlying factors. Finally, in conformity with Article 13 (a) of the Statutes, Congress was required to take a decision on rescission of all remaining rights of the 161 Members whose dues were currently two or more years in arrears.

The **President** opened the floor for comments or questions.

International Council of Environmental Law urged the Assembly to take into account special circumstances, such as the current situation in Syria, when deciding on rescission of the rights of Members.

Hoste Hainse (Nepal) asked that Members be afforded the opportunity to explain the reasons for arrears. Issues such as disadvantageous foreign currency exchange rates could prevent on-time payment of dues.

The **Chair of the Credentials Committee** responded that the procedure and timeframe set out in the Statutes specifically allowed for the assessment of special circumstances.

The **President** proceeded to open voting on the decision tabled by the **Chair of the Credentials Committee**.

Congress took the following decision [[voting record](#)]:

Decision 44

Congress RESCINDS all the remaining rights of 161 Members whose dues are two or more years in arrears.

Concluding his presentation, the **Chair of the Credentials Committee** reported that a total of 520 Members had been sponsored to attend the Congress and that an average of 91% of those sponsored Members had voted on motions during the Members Assembly. However, 13 sponsored Members (nine in Category A and four in Category B) had not been accredited, while six sponsored Members (three in Category A and three in Category B) were accredited but did not collect their voting cards. The Committee strongly encouraged that in future sponsored delegates be required to exercise their vote. The Committee was also making specific recommendations on four further issues where it felt improvements could be made for the next Congress. These concerned:

- Strengthening the on-line accreditation process;
- Facilitating Members' ability to participate and vote;
- Ensuring the correct use of proxies; and
- Drafting of the Terms of Reference for the Credentials Committee.

Further details can be found in Annex 1 *Recommendations of Congress Credentials Committee*.

Finally, the Credentials Committee had provided comments to the Finance and Audit Committee of Congress in relation to the proposed membership dues for 2017–2020, specifically with regard to the need to consider the new membership category of indigenous peoples' organisations, and implications for State Members of movement between bandings on the UN scale of assessment.

The **President** invited the **Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee** to present his Committee's recommendations in relation to membership dues.

The **Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee** – FACC (Spencer Thomas) reported that in accordance with the Committee's Terms of Reference, FACC had reviewed the membership dues framework and scale of contributions for 2017–2020 and recommended its approval by Congress. The Committee had noted that:

- The scale of contributions was indexed against the Swiss rate of inflation, which was currently very low; and
- The scale for States and State Agencies was based on the UN scale of contributions, while the scale for National and International NGOs was based on assessment of their operating expenditure.

The Committee had further noted:

- The transitional arrangements proposed for State Agencies when the State concerned ceased to be a Member; and
- The decision made by Congress with respect to the new membership category for indigenous peoples' organisations, which would need to be taken into consideration.

Congress took the following decision [[voting record](#)]:

Decision 45

Congress ADOPTS the proposal for [2017–2020 membership dues](#) in accordance with *Article 20 (f) of IUCN Statutes*.

Agenda item 8.4 – Progress Report of the Resolutions Committee followed by discussion and vote on motions

This item was chaired by **IUCN Vice-President Marina von Weissenberg** (Regional Councillor for West Europe).

The **Chair** invited the **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** to present an update on the remaining two motions, namely Motion 048 and Motion 007, that had not yet been considered in plenary.

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** (Simon Stuart) confirmed that Motion 048 *Protection of primary forests, including intact forest landscapes* was now ready for plenary discussion, following finalisation of all language versions.

The **Chair** opened the floor to interventions.

In response to an observation by **Baanhn Beli** (Pakistan), the **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** confirmed that, as for other motions, the names of the sponsors of the motion should have been removed from the text tabled for adoption. This would be corrected later by the Secretariat.

There being no further requests for the floor the **Chair** put Motion 048 to the vote.

Motion 048 *Protection of primary forests, including intact forest landscapes*

The text arising from the Contact Group on this motion was approved without further amendment, subject to the editorial correction mentioned.

DECISION 46

Congress ADOPTS Motion 048.

[voting record:]

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** recalled that the Members' Assembly had confirmed the adoption by electronic voting prior to Congress of 85 motions on conservation policy. A further 19 such motions had been adopted during the Congress, leaving just one remaining: Motion 007 *Closure of domestic markets for elephant ivory*. A third and final meeting of the Contact Group on this motion, which had worked until after midnight on 9/10 September, had been unable to reach consensus. It had been decided to proceed on the basis of the text arising from the second meeting of the Contact Group held on 7 September, recognising that this did not represent a consensus text, and to invite dissenting Members to submit amendments. The Resolutions Committee had received a large number of amendments overnight and the motions and documentation teams had worked hard to process these. The document now available in all three languages on the motions portal constituted the text emerging from the second meeting of the Contact Group together with amendments submitted by the Government of Japan and the Government of Namibia. On the advice of the Legal Adviser, inputs from the Government of South Africa had not been admitted as they were not made on the basis of the text from the second Contact Group. However, they were very close to those amendments submitted by the Governments of Japan and Namibia. In accordance with the Rules of Procedure, the amendments (as admitted by the Resolutions Committee) should be considered first.

A lengthy procedural debate ensued, with statements against the proposed amendments being made by **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development** (France), **Association for Tropical Biology & Conservation** (USA), **Wildlife Conservation Society** and **Agence nationale des Parcs Nationaux** (Gabon).

Wildlife Conservation Society, supported by **Baanhn Beli** (Pakistan), recommended that all of the amendments be considered and voted on together, as a single package.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development (France), supported by **Environment & Conservation Organizations of New Zealand**, tabled a procedural motion that the Assembly should not consider any of the amendments submitted and called for this to be put to the vote forthwith.

The **Chair** sought the advice of the **Legal Adviser** whose reading of the Rules of Procedure was that there was no possibility for the Assembly not to consider the amendments submitted. Permitted procedural motions were clearly defined in the Rules of Procedure and non-consideration of amendments was not one of them.

The **Chair** ruled that the five amendments for which two differing options had been submitted would be discussed first, with the options voted on one-by-one. After that, all remaining amendments, incorporating any additional revisions agreed by the Assembly, would be voted on as a package. She asked the **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** to briefly introduce each of the amendments for which there were two options and indicated that she would permit two Members to speak in favour of each option and two against, before proceeding to a vote.

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** noted that the five amendments concerned had options labelled A and B. In each case Option A was the one departing furthest from the Contact Group text and, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure, would be discussed and voted on first. Option B would only be discussed and voted on if Option A failed. If Option B also failed, the text would revert to the Contact Group version.

The Assembly proceeded to consider each of the five amendments for which two different options had been submitted.

Members speaking in favour of one or more amendment option included: **Department of Environment Affairs** (South Africa), **Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife** (South Africa), **Ministry of Environment and Tourism** (Namibia), **Ministry of the Environment** (Japan), **ResourceAfrica** (South Africa) and **Safari Club International Foundation** (USA).

Those speaking against one or more amendment option included: **Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation** (USA), **Association Sénégalaise des Amis de la Nature** (Senegal), **Centre d'Etude de l'Environnement** (Cameroon), **Conservation de la Faune Congolaise** (Democratic Republic of Congo), **Department of State, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs** (USA), **Environment and Education Society** (Benin), **Groupe de Recherche et d'Actions pour le Bien-Être** (Benin), **Ministry of Environment, Water and Natural Resources** (Kenya), **Nature Conservation Egypt**, **Preserve Planet** (Costa Rica), **SOS Sahel International** (Burkina Faso), **Tanzania College of African Wildlife Management**, **Uganda Wildlife Society**, **Wildlife and Environment**, **Zimbabwe**, **Wildlife Authority of Uganda**, **Wildlife Conservation Authority** (Ethiopia) and **Wildlife Conservation Trust** (India).

In the case of all five of the amendments concerned, Option A was not approved, meaning that Option B was then tabled and voted on. Once again, in all five cases, Option B was not approved, meaning that the text arising from the second Contact Group prevailed. *[Note: For the purpose of keeping these Minutes concise and to the point, the outcomes of the votes on Options A and B for each of the five amendments to Motion 007, are not recorded here as separate decisions of Congress. However, the detailed voting record can be consulted online; see Motion 007 – Amendments 4A, 4B, 7A, 7B, 9A, 9B, 14A, 14B, 15A and 15B.]*

In line with her earlier ruling, the **Chair** put all remaining amendments to the vote *en bloc*. The amendments were not approved.

DECISION 47

Congress DOES NOT ADOPT the amendments to Motion 007.

[voting record [4A,4B,7A](#), [7B](#), [9A](#), [9B](#), [14A](#), [14B](#), [15A](#), [15B](#), [All](#) :]

State and agency Members of the United States voted against all amendments to Motion 007.

The **Chair** confirmed that none of the amendments to Motion 007 had been approved by the Assembly. She would therefore put the un-amended text arising from the second meeting of the Contact Group to the vote.

Congress took the following decision [[voting record](#)]:

DECISION 48

Congress ADOPTS Motion 007.

European Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation (FACE) placed on record the following statement:

“We feel this motion should contain something to recognise the countries which currently have provisions and systems that work for the conservation of elephants, and which are in line with IUCN Policy and the Convention on Biological Diversity. Nobody will dispute the fact that many unregulated markets need to close, but please consider the States which have systems that work and think about why these systems work; in particular about the value and the resources that keep elephants alive in local communities.”

In response to an intervention by **International Council for Game & Wildlife Conservation** the Chair confirmed the understanding that legal hunting trophies were not covered by the terms of the motion. The International Council for Game & Wildlife subsequently provided the following statement for the record:

“The International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation, represented by its Director General, Mr. Tamás Marghescu, would like to formally declare that the Contact Group of Motion 007 on September 7th and then again on the 9th deliberately deleted the previously agreed text in the preamble related to the clarification that Motion 007 does not deal with legal elephant trophies, as they cannot be traded commercially anyway. We kindly request that the Point of Order made by Mr. Marghescu at the Members’ Assembly is minuted and a footnote accompanies the final Motion 007 as an important clarification, namely that legal elephant trophies are not subject of Motion 007.”

Ministry of Environment and Tourism (Namibia) and **Department of Environment Affairs** (South Africa) provided the following declaration of vote, for the record, in relation to Motion 007:

“The Governments of Namibia and South Africa have noted the adoption of Motion 007 calling for the closure of domestic elephant ivory markets. Namibia and South Africa voted against the adoption of this motion, because it infringes on the sovereign rights and interests of our States. We further consider the Resolution not to be aligned with the IUCN’s objectives as contained in its Statutes.

In the spirit of consensus building in the IUCN, Namibia and South Africa participated in the contact group on this motion with the aim of reaching a compromise with the proponents that would recognize the different wildlife management policies of States that guide the management of the African elephant and the sustainable utilization of the species; the variance in African elephant population status across its range; the different conservation needs and requirements as well as differences in the ability to regulate domestic ivory markets.

Today, a very clear message has been sent to our Governments by the IUCN: Countries that have wildlife management policies underpinned by the principle of sustainable utilization and that have been able to conserve and grow their African elephant populations based on these policies, do not have a voice and will not be heard on this platform. The IUCN's website states that the Congress provides a neutral forum in which governments, NGOs, scientists, businesses, local communities and indigenous people can work together to forge and implement solutions to environmental challenges. It was our understanding that the IUCN works on the basis of the latest research and objectivity, but that was regrettably not evident during this process.

The Governments of Namibia and South Africa are concerned that the IUCN, a well-respected conservation organisation, is being used by some organisations to advance their own agendas.

Our position is that this Resolution impacts on the sovereign rights of countries to sustainably use their own resources pursuant to their own policies. The Resolution is therefore inappropriate and counter-productive. The Resolution should have included recognition that if there are problems related to domestic ivory markets, they can be addressed through effective regulation of markets and effective stockpile management and that those countries that have the ability to effectively regulate should not be required to close their domestic ivory markets.

In conclusion, our Governments would like to categorically state that this Resolution, will not be implemented by our respective Governments."

International Council of Environmental Law provided the following declaration of vote, for the record, in relation to Motion 007:

"The International Council of Environmental Law notes that on 9 September 2016, the UN General Assembly adopted by consensus, without a vote, Motion A/70/300, with Germany's contribution of A/70/L.63, on 'Tackling Illicit Wildlife Trade', and ICEL supported Motion 007, in full support of this UNGA Resolution."

European Bureau for Conservation & Development provided the following declaration of vote, for the record, in relation to Motion 007:

"The European Bureau for Conservation & Development voted against this Motion as we would have liked to see some of the amendments taken. Our organization believes in compromise solutions."

The Chair noted that consideration of motions had now been completed. She invited the **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** to present some concluding remarks.

The **Chair of the Resolutions Committee** recalled that the new motions process, just concluded, had been a major new initiative for IUCN and had gone well, though he was sure that the incoming Council would wish to undertake a careful evaluation and implement improvements where necessary. He thanked the many people involved in bringing what had been a quite phenomenal effort to fruition. The intention of the Motions Working Group, which had become the Resolutions Committee, had been to ensure that the new process stayed on track and that every Member had the right to be heard.

The **Chair** invited the Assembly to show its appreciation for the work conducted by the Chair of the Resolutions Committee.

Agenda item 8.5 – Presentation of the Hawai'i Commitments

The **President** gave the floor to the **Chair of the Congress Steering Committee's sub-committee on the Hawai'i Commitments** (John Robinson).

Mr Robinson introduced the document ‘*Navigating Island Earth – Hawai‘i Commitments*’ (contained in Annex 2 to these Proceedings), which summarised many of the key issues and transformational ideas and actions emerging from the many activities and deliberations of the Congress, including the high-level dialogues and discussion of issues of strategic importance for the Union.

He recalled that this had not been a negotiated text. The term *Commitments* was used to convey participants’ collective commitment to conservation action, reflecting the sense of urgency demanded by the theme of the Congress ‘*Planet at the Crossroads*’. The Congress Steering Committee had established a sub-committee for the *Hawai‘i Commitments*, which had reviewed inputs from session rapporteurs, together with 114 sets of comments from Congress participants, following the posting online of two draft versions of the text.

The *Hawai‘i Commitments* were read in English, French and Spanish by representatives of IUCN Members from Hawai‘i, Burkina Faso and Guatemala, and by a representative of the IUCN Secretariat. The concluding paragraph stated:

“Our problems are complex, values are contested, and the future uncertain. Strong partnerships are needed to implement conservation at the scales required. We need to broaden and deepen the global dialogue about how we relate to nature, motivate collective action, and ensure that nature-based solutions are fair, just and enduring. The conservation community will meet these challenges emboldened by the creativity of human imagination, empowered by scientific and traditional knowledge, and inspired by the spirit of Aloha ‘Āina.”

Congress welcomed the Hawai‘i Commitments by acclamation.

During the 8th Sitting, the **Government of Finland** submitted to the Secretariat a statement concerning the Hawai‘i Commitments which, due to time constraints, could not be delivered orally during the Sitting. The text of the statement can be viewed [here](#).

The **President** informed the Assembly that all items of formal business had now been concluded. The Closing Ceremony would take place after a short break.

Closing Ceremony of the World Conservation Congress

Saturday 10 September 2016 (14.45–16.00)

The **Director General** (Inger Andersen) acted as master of ceremonies. She observed that after 10 long days of hard work, dedication and new commitments, IUCN was “*at the crossroads, moving in the right direction*”.

The **President** (Xinsheng Zhang) said, “*this Congress held in the Olympic year has broken its own record*” and constituted the largest environmental meeting ever held in the United States, with over 10,000 participants from 192 countries. By navigating past the crossroads, IUCN had “*taken the right path and left the harbour starting a decisive new journey with great hope and optimism.*” He thanked Members for their consistent support during the past four years and looked forward his coming term of office, concluding that “*together as a Union we can secure the life of the planet*”.

The **President** and **Director General** presented the outgoing Regional Councillors and Commission Chairs with certificates of appreciation for their service during the 2012–2016 intersessional period.

The **Governor of Hawai‘i** (David Ige) thanked IUCN and the Host Committee and recalled the launch of the Sustainable Hawai‘i Initiative during the Opening Ceremony. He reflected that: “*What is clear now, more than ever before, is that we are in this together; one canoe navigating Island Earth. The planet is indeed at a crossroads. We have the power to decide the direction. The legacy of this*

Congress will be far reaching. The work does not stop after today. Hawai'i has the heart and capacity to make this happen. Now we must do it. Together, we can change the world. And together we will".

Referring to the “*touching and heartfelt moments of the World Conservation Congress where environmental leaders from around the world gathered to learn from each other*” and thanking the Hawaiian hosts, the **Minister of Agriculture and Forests of Bhutan** (Lyonpo Yeshey Dorji), called on others to join Bhutan in pursuing ‘development with values’. Bhutan would play its part in implementing the *Hawai'i Commitments* as well as the global agreements reached in 2015 on sustainable development and climate change, and was encouraged by the nature-based solutions offered by IUCN.

Emphasising the power emerging from the recognition of traditional knowledge and science as partners, the **Vice-Chair of the Hawai'i Host Committee for the 2016 World Conservation Congress** (Chipper Wichman), celebrated the success of the Congress, observing that, “*We will look back at this meeting as where the planet went from a tipping point to a turning point*”. He quoted an *Olelo Noeau* – a wise saying – handed down by his ancestors: “*The land is the Chief and the people are the servants*”. This meant that, “*when we can begin to see nature as part of our family, as more important than we are, we will begin to make the right choices for a more sustainable world*”. He recalled that the Host Committee had worked for the past two years to put on the best Congress possible and that this had involved teamwork by hundreds of people. Thanks were due to all of them and to the State of Hawai'i for its foresight in building a world class meeting facility that had infused the Congress with *Aloha*.

Following performances of traditional music and dance, the **President** expressed his “*deep appreciation to the host, Hawai'i,*” and declared the 2016 World Conservation Congress closed.

Annex 1

STATEMENT of the UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IUCN MOTIONS PROCESS - ON-LINE VOTING

August 16, 2016

Sixth World Conservation Congress Honolulu, Hawai'i

The United States recognizes the importance and value of an organization such as IUCN with its broad and determined membership dedicated to protecting the natural world. As a member of IUCN, it is our responsibility to engage fully and actively; be assured the United States takes this responsibility seriously.

We applaud the efforts to improve and strengthen the motions process. Because of the high priority we place on IUCN's programs which contribute significantly to the conservation goals we all share, we remain convinced that we should focus our attention on those motions that deal with issues related to IUCN as an institution, its governance and its broad programmatic issues.

We greatly appreciate the outstanding efforts made by the Motions Committee to improve the process, and found the electronic discussions to be enlightening and worthwhile.

We would note that a number of motions reflect the strong views of a small number of members on what actions State members should take nationally, regionally or internationally on complex and often controversial issues. We urge IUCN and its members to continue to refine the motions process in order to focus IUCN's work on important issues that reflect the strengths and concerns of its broad membership.

We remain convinced it is important to review and provide guidance on all motions and to identify their relevance to the proposed IUCN quadrennial Program and their cost implications. As in the past, a number of motions would require a significant shift in priorities, resources and funding allocations within the 2017-2020 program. This raises the central issue of how the motions process fits into the IUCN Programme 2017-2020 which we are to finalize during this Congress. We appreciate the continued attention to this concern.

However, there are some types of resolutions on which it may not be appropriate for us, as a government, to engage or negotiate.

Among these are motions directed primarily to a single government or group of governments on national, bilateral or regional issues. We often lack sufficient factual information about such issues and believe that responses to these motions are best left to the country or countries affected. We will not take a position as a government on such motions, except as they have direct implications for the U.S. Government. In such instances, we may provide a statement for the record to help clarify the issues raised and provide our perspective.

A second group of issues are those focused on global issues that we agree are important but that are topics of ongoing international policy debate in, or infringe on the independent legal mandates of, other fora, such as climate change, wetlands, and biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. We respect the interest of members in issues of global concern and we share many of these interests, especially on emerging issues such as the role of ecosystems in food security and the importance of the illegal trade in wildlife. However, we do not intend here to take national government positions on the particular views presented in these IUCN motions or to vote on the outcome.

In keeping with our past practice, we are providing a list for the record of those resolutions on which the U.S. Government has refrained from engaging.

We request that this statement be entered in full for the record in the report of this Congress.

Annex 2

Table of Resolutions, Recommendations and other Decisions

The table shows the original Motion number (as discussed both online and during the Members' Assembly and recorded in these *Proceedings*) cross-referenced to final published Resolution or Recommendation numbers and titles

Motion number	Resolution / Recommendation number	Title
001	WCC-2016-Res-001	Identifying and archiving obsolete Resolutions and Recommendations to strengthen IUCN policy and to enhance implementation of IUCN Resolutions
002	WCC-2016-Res-002	IUCN Global Group for National and Regional Committee Development
003	WCC-2016-Rec-098	Preventing electrocution and collision impacts of power infrastructure on birds
004	WCC-2016-Res-009	Conservation of the Helmeted Hornbill (<i>Rhinoplax vigil</i>)
005	WCC-2016-Rec-099	Promotion of Anguillid eels as flagship species for aquatic conservation
006	WCC-2016-Res-010	Conservation of Amur tiger (<i>Panthera tigris altaica</i>) and Amur leopard (<i>Panthera pardus orientalis</i>) in Northeast Asia
007	WCC-2016-Res-011	Closure of domestic markets for elephant ivory
008	WCC-2016-Res-012	Giraffids: reversing the decline of Africa's iconic megafauna
009	WCC-2016-Res-013	Terminating the hunting of captive-bred lions (<i>Panthera leo</i>) and other predators and captive breeding for commercial, non-conservation purposes
010	WCC-2016-Res-014	Combatting the illegal poisoning of wildlife
011	WCC-2016-Res-015	Greater protection needed for all pangolin species
012	WCC-2016-Res-016	The IUCN Red List Index for monitoring extinction risk
013	WCC-2016-Res-017	Actions to avert the extinction of the vaquita porpoise (<i>Phocoena sinus</i>)
014	WCC-2016-Res-018	Toward an IUCN standard classification of the impact of invasive alien species
015	WCC-2016-Res-019	Protection of wild bats from culling programmes

Motion number	Resolution / Recommendation number	Title
016	WCC-2016-Rec-100	Management and regulation of selective intensive breeding of large wild mammals for commercial purposes
017	WCC-2016-Res-020	Strengthening pathway management of alien species in island ecosystems
018	WCC-2016-Res-021	Monitoring and management of unselective, unsustainable and unmonitored (UUU) fisheries
019	WCC-2016-Res-022	Conservation measures for vultures, including banning the use of veterinary diclofenac
020	WCC-2016-Res-023	Protection for the serranids and syngnathids occurring off the Spanish coasts
021	WCC-2016-Res-024	Supporting the Brazilian Red-Listing process and the conservation of threatened species
022	WCC-2016-Res-025	Recognising, understanding and enhancing the role of indigenous peoples and local communities in tackling the illegal wildlife trade crisis
023	WCC-2016-Rec-101	Improving the conservation and management of the silky shark, the thresher sharks and mobula rays
024	WCC-2016-Res-026	Conservation of intertidal habitats and migratory waterbirds of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway, especially the Yellow Sea, in a global context
025	WCC-2016-Res-027	Strengthening the implementation of the Bern Convention for migratory bird species
026	WCC-2016-Rec-102	Protected areas and other areas important for biodiversity in relation to environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure development
027	WCC-2016-Res-028	Recognising the Centennial of the US National Park Service
028	WCC-2016-Res-029	Incorporating urban dimensions of conservation into the work of IUCN
029	WCC-2016-Res-030	Recognising and respecting the territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs) overlapped by protected areas
030	WCC-2016-Res-031	World Parks Congress 2014: The Promise of Sydney
031	WCC-2016-Res-032	Achieving representative systems of protected areas in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean
032	WCC-2016-Rec-103	Establishment, recognition and regulation of the career of park ranger
033	WCC-2016-Res-096	Safeguarding space for nature and securing our future: developing a post-2020 strategy
034	WCC-2016-Res-033	Recognising cultural and spiritual significance of nature in protected and conserved areas

Motion number	Resolution / Recommendation number	Title
035	WCC-2016-Res-034	Observing protected area norms in the Wild Heart of Europe
036	WCC-2016-Res-035	Transboundary cooperation and protected areas
037	WCC-2016-Res-036	Supporting privately protected areas
038	WCC-2016-Res-037	Harmonising the integrated management of overlapping Ramsar Sites, World Heritage sites, Biosphere Reserves and UNESCO Global Geoparks
039	WCC-2016-Res-038	Establishing an IUCN and World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) Task Force on Protected Area Friendly System
040	WCC-2016-Rec-104	Integrating autochthonous forest genetic diversity into protected area conservation objectives
041	WCC-2016-Rec-105	Cooperation between the protected areas of the Guiana Shield and northeastern Amazonia
042	WCC-2016-Res-039	Protected areas as natural solutions to climate change
043	WCC-2016-Res-040	Support for Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) in Africa
044	WCC-2016-Res-041	Identifying Key Biodiversity Areas for safeguarding biodiversity
045	WCC-2016-Res-042	Protection of biodiversity refuge areas in the Atlantic biogeographical region
046	WCC-2016-Res-043	Securing the future for global peatlands
047	WCC-2016-Res-044	Protection, restoration and sustainable use of urban water bodies in India
048	WCC-2016-Res-045	Protection of primary forests, including intact forest landscapes
048bis	WCC-2016-Res-046	Assessing the global applicability of the concept of ancient forests as understood in European forest policy and management
049	WCC-2016-Res-047	Advancing conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction
050	WCC-2016-Rec-106	Cooperation for the conservation and protection of coral reefs worldwide
051	WCC-2016-Res-048	International biofouling
052	WCC-2016-Res-049	Promoting regional approaches to tackle the global problem of marine debris (litter)
053	WCC-2016-Res-050	Increasing marine protected area coverage for effective marine biodiversity conservation

Motion number	Resolution / Recommendation number	Title
054	WCC-2016-Res-051	Ecological connectivity on the north coast of the Alboran Sea
055	WCC-2016-Res-052	Declaration of Astola Island as a Marine Protected Area
056	WCC-2016-Res-053	Protecting coastal and marine environments from mining waste
057	WCC-2016-Res-054	Protecting the world's greatest salmon fishery in Bristol Bay, Alaska from large-scale mining
058	WCC-2016-Res-055	Concerns about whaling under special permits
059	WCC-2016-Res-056	IUCN response to the Paris Climate Change Agreement
060	WCC-2016-Rec-097	Pacific region climate resiliency action plan
061	WCC-2016-Res-057	Take greater account of the ocean in the climate regime
062	WCC-2016-Rec-107	Integration of nature-based solutions into strategies to combat climate change
063	WCC-2016-Res-058	Natural Capital
064	WCC-2016-Res-059	IUCN Policy on Biodiversity Offsets
065	WCC-2016-Res-060	Improving standards in ecotourism
066	WCC-2016-Res-061	Mitigating the impacts of oil palm expansion and operations on biodiversity
067	WCC-2016-Res-062	The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: integration of conservation into development
068	WCC-2016-Res-063	Avoiding extinction in limestone karst areas
069	WCC-2016-Res-064	Strengthening cross-sector partnerships to recognise the contributions of nature to health, well-being and quality of life
070	WCC-2016-Rec-108	Financing for biodiversity projects in the European Union's outermost regions and overseas countries and territories
071	WCC-2016-Res-065	Community Based Natural Resource Management in the State of Hawai'i
072	WCC-2016-Rec-109	Aloha+ Challenge Model for Sustainable Development
073	WCC-2016-Rec-110	Strengthening business engagement in biodiversity preservation

Motion number	Resolution / Recommendation number	Title
074	WCC-2016-Res-066	Strengthening corporate biodiversity measurement, valuation and reporting
075	WCC-2016-Res-067	Best practice for industrial-scale development projects
076	WCC-2016-Res-068	Prevention, management and resolution of social conflict as a key requirement for conservation and management of ecosystems
077	WCC-2016-Res-069	Defining Nature-based Solutions
078	WCC-2016-Res-070	Crimes against the environment
079	WCC-2016-Res-071	Global Judicial Institute for the Environment
080	WCC-2016-Res-072	Enabling the Whakatane Mechanism to contribute to conservation through securing communities' rights
081	WCC-2016-Res-073	Investments of development finance institutions: socio-environmental impacts and respect for rights
082	WCC-2016-Res-074	Reinforcing the principle of non-regression in environmental law and policy
083	WCC-2016-Res-075	Affirmation of the role of indigenous cultures in global conservation efforts
084	WCC-2016-Res-076	Improving the means to fight environmental crime
085	WCC-2016-Res-077	Environmental courts and tribunals
086	WCC-2016-Res-078	Supporting implementation of the African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources and the African Agenda 2063
087	WCC-2016-Res-079	Request for an Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on the principle of sustainable development in view of the needs of future generations
088	WCC-2016-Res-080	System of categories for indigenous collective management areas in Central America
089	WCC-2016-Res-081	Humanity's right to a healthy environment
090	WCC-2016-Res-082	A path forward to address concerns over the use of lead ammunition in hunting
091	WCC-2016-Res-083	Conservation of moveable geological heritage
092	WCC-2016-Res-084	Environmental education and how to naturalise the spaces in educational centres for healthy development and a better childhood connection with nature

Motion number	Resolution / Recommendation number	Title
093	WCC-2016-Res-085	Connecting people with nature globally
094	WCC-2016-Rec-111	Increase resources for biodiversity conservation research
095	WCC-2016-Res-086	Development of IUCN policy on biodiversity conservation and synthetic biology
096	WCC-2016-Res-087	Awareness of connectivity conservation definition and guidelines
097	WCC-2016-Res-088	Safeguarding indigenous lands, territories and resources from unsustainable developments
098	WCC-2016-Res-089	Energy efficiency and renewable energy to promote the conservation of nature
099	WCC-2016-Rec-112	Development of offshore renewable energy and biodiversity conservation
100	WCC-2016-Res-090	Two dams on the Santa Cruz River in Argentina: Their impact on an irreplaceable ecosystem and on the hooded grebe (<i>Podiceps gallardoi</i>) population, a Critically Endangered species endemic to Argentina
101	WCC-2016-Res-091	South Atlantic Whale Sanctuary
102	WCC-2016-Res-092	Urging the Congress of the Republic of Peru to shelve permanently the bill that proposes a road that will affect the Alto Purús National Park and other areas
103	WCC-2016-Res-093	Vicuña (<i>Vicugna vicugna</i>) conservation and the illegal trade in its fibre
104	WCC-2016-Res-094	Support for increased conservation effort for Hawai'i's threatened birds
105	WCC-2016-Res-095	Support for peace and nature in Colombia
A	WCC-2016-Res-003	Including regional governments in the structure of the Union
B	WCC-2016-Res-004	Including indigenous peoples' organisations in the structure of the Union
C	WCC-2016-Res-005	Election of the IUCN President
D	WCC-2016-Res-006	Members' Assembly's sole authority to amend the Regulations pertaining to the objectives, nature of the membership and membership criteria (follow-up to decision 22 of the 2012 World Conservation Congress)
E	WCC-2016-Res-007	Enhanced practice and reforms of IUCN's governance

Motion number	Resolution / Recommendation number	Title
F	WCC-2016-Res-008	Proposed amendment to Article 6 of the IUCN Statutes concerning the dues of State and political/economic integration organisation Members adhering to IUCN
Dec 3*	WCC-2016-Dec-113	Recording of the adoption of the motions by electronic vote prior to the Congress
Dec 6	WCC-2016-Dec-114	Approval of Commission Mandates 2017–2020
Dec 12	WCC-2016-Dec-115	IUCN Programme 2017–2020
Dec 29	WCC-2016-Dec-116	Approval of financial statements 2012–2015
Dec 30	WCC-2016-Dec-117	Appointment of External Auditors 2017–2020
Dec 40	WCC-2016-Dec-121	Election of Regional Councillors, Chairs of Commissions, Treasurer and President 2016–2020
Dec 41	WCC-2016-Dec-118	Approval of Financial Plan 2017–2020
Dec 44	WCC-2016-Dec-120	Rescission list
Dec 45	WCC-2016-Dec-119	Membership Dues 2017–2020

(*) The following refer to the number of the decision adopted by the Members' Assembly as recorded in the Proceedings of the 2016 Members' Assembly.

Annex 3

Recommendations of Congress Credentials Committee on Improvement

September 10, 2016

Agenda Item 8.3

Recommendations of Congress Credentials Committee on Improvement⁵

The Congress Credentials recommends the following improvements based on its observations and analysis undertaken during the Congress.

Online accreditation process

The Committee noted that Members found the online accreditation system to be useful and efficient and that the Accreditation Guidelines provided good guidance. However, with the fair number of registered Members not accredited and/or with voting cards not picked up (81 and 23, respectively), the Committee recommends that National Committee representatives and regional Member focal points work with their Members to facilitate completion of accreditation and picking up voting cards.

Noting that a number of Members reported that the initial notification from the Secretariat of the accreditation system being open were caught up in spam filters, the Committee recommends that initial notices to Members be sent in simple text version as well as normal email.

Facilitating Members' ability to participate in the vote

The Committee recommends that National and Regional Committees work actively prior to the Congress to prepare their Members for participating in the Members Assembly, and that along with Secretariat regional membership focal points provide hands on support to Members at the Congress, including to exercise their vote on motions and other decisions of the Assembly..

The Committee recommends that each accredited Member represented at the Congress be issued a table tent card with the name of the organisation, prior to the 1st Sitting of the Members Assembly, to enable Members to establish a "place" in the plenary hall and to facilitate cross-Member interactions.

The Committee noted the value of the Members' help desk in the Membership Lounge, and recommends that a help desk be installed at the back of the Plenary Hall to assist Members during sittings of the Members Assembly.

Proxies

The Committee recommends greater efforts for the use of proxies at the Congress. This involves first that all Members that are not able to attend the Congress be strongly encouraged to issue proxies to other Members who will be represented at the Congress – with a role for National and Regional Committees in facilitating this. Second that Members represented at the Congress which issue proxies to other Members do so for at least two sittings to avoid piece-meal exercise of their vote.

Sponsored delegates

While noting the high level of accreditation of sponsored delegates (501 out of 520 sponsored delegates accredited with voting cards), the Committee strongly encourages that the conditions for sponsored delegates' substantive participation in the Members Assembly are carried through, and that the Secretariat receive assurances from sponsored Members that they will remain throughout the Assembly to vote.

Rescissions

Given the worrying trend in increasing number of rescissions over the last three Congresses, and

⁵ These recommendations are to be incorporated in whole into the Congress Proceedings along with the verbal report of the Chair of the Credentials Committee.

particularly of State Members, the Committee recommends that rescission data be disaggregated and detailed analysis be done by region and Member type to determine if there are systemic issues. This will aid identification of the causes of these issues and development of solutions.

Credentials Committee ToR

The Committee recommends that in communications to Members prior to the Assembly, and at the opening of the next Congress, Members be informed that the Credentials Committee has the responsibility to receive and address non-administrative membership issues arising during the Congress.

We recommend the updating of the Committee ToR to specify that the Committee Chair reports to the Congress three times rather than daily.

Annex 4



Navigating Island Earth The Hawai'i Commitments

Over ten thousand leaders from government, civil society, indigenous communities, faith and spiritual traditions, the private sector, and academia gathered in an historically important meeting in Hawai'i, from the 1st to the 10th of September, 2016.

The theme of this IUCN World Conservation Congress was 'Planet at the Crossroads' to reflect the serious choices and actions the world needs to make to reverse environmental declines and secure a healthy, livable planet.

The meeting confirmed that we have a closing window of opportunity to move to sustainability and harness nature-based solution for conservation. We need to meet the major global challenges of species loss, ecosystem decline and climate change with their profound impacts on human life and wellbeing.

Building on the Paris Agreement on climate change, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Promise of Sydney, Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the Earth Charter, and The Honolulu Challenge on Invasive Alien Species, the World Conservation Congress was a unique opportunity where different voices came together to find common ground in a spirit of partnership and collaboration.

While science continues to reveal how Earth provides the conditions essential to life and human wellbeing, all too often we do not recognize the benefits that nature provides. Through ignorance, willfulness, complacency, or corruption, we continue to degrade ecosystems and the services they provide, depleting biodiversity, as well as geodiversity, and eroding traditional biocultural relationships. An alternative approach is that nature conservation and human progress are not mutually exclusive but can be essential partners in achieving sustainable development.

We must undertake profound transformations in how human societies live on Earth, with particular attention to making our patterns of production and consumption more sustainable. We must recognize that human health and wellbeing depend on healthy ecosystems. We must recognize that every form of life has value – regardless of its worth to humans.

We are faced with tremendous forces of transformation sweeping the world, such as climate change and dramatic socioeconomic and gender inequality, and the urgent need to eradicate poverty. Delegates affirmed that there are credible and accessible political, economic, legal, cultural and technological choices which can promote human wellbeing in

ways that support, and even enhance, our planet's natural assets. The environmental rule of law is essential and needs to be cultivated and strengthened. The establishment of environment courts in more than 50 nations is an encouraging and necessary development.

The Hawai'i Context

Hawai'i, in the heart of the Pacific Ocean, provided a special context for the 2016 World Conservation Congress, infusing it with the Aloha spirit and the tradition of living in harmony with nature. Aloha 'Āina an inherent part of the traditions and customs of Native Hawaiians, embodies the mutual respect for one another and a commitment of service to the natural world. This island context highlighted three critical issues for conservation in the coming decades:

1. The nexus between biological and cultural diversity, and how their conservation and sustainability requires a combination of traditional wisdom and modern knowledge.
2. The significance of the world's ocean for biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods.
3. The threats to biodiversity from habitat loss, climate change, invasive alien species, unsustainable exploitation, and pollution.

These issues are shared throughout the world, and the Congress provided an opportunity to examine nature-based, life-affirming solutions and the roles of governments, civil society and the private sector in their development and delivery. Embodying Aloha 'Āina globally will help address the tremendous environmental challenges we face.

The Opportunities Identified by the Congress

To achieve the transformation required to promote a 'Culture of Conservation', while respecting human rights and gender equity, we need to support and build constituencies for nature, and to address the way human societies are changing nature and our world.

Cultivating a Culture of Conservation “

- *Linking Spirituality, Religion, Culture and Conservation*

The world's rich diversity of cultures and faith traditions are a major source of our ethical values and provide insights into ways of valuing nature. The wisdom of indigenous traditions is of particular significance as we begin to re-learn how to live in communion with, rather than in dominance over, the natural world. The *Encyclical Letter Laudato Si'*, the *Islamic Declaration on Global Climate Change*, and the *Interfaith Climate Change Statement to World Leaders* among many other statements from world religions, provide insights.

Solutions: To create a stronger culture of conservation, we need to look beyond mere technical means. The values and wisdom of indigenous peoples, Elders, and the world's rich faith and spiritual communities offer a deeper understanding of our connections with nature, and help inform the necessary transformational changes in the financial, technological, industrial, governance and regulatory systems of our societies. To incorporate such insights, spiritual leaders and the conservation community need to come together to

share the values that connect us. Artists, educators and innovators all can contribute to this expanded vision.

- *Engage and Empower Youth*

We need a global movement that nurtures a new generation across all sectors of society to connect with nature and take action to support conservation. And we need to engage and empower youth to work for the planet, creating together a culture of conservation that will endure. In an increasingly urbanized world, people, especially children, often have little chance to experience and connect with the natural world. Young adults have a greater stake in long-term sustainability, yet can feel that conservation is irrelevant to them.

Solutions: When navigating Island Earth, we rely on the winds of youth to fill our sails. Their vitality and innovation catalyzes and sustains conservation action. Nurturing youth requires access to nature, and investing in protected areas and parkland, especially in and near urban zones, so that they provide threshold experiences that lead to a life of conservation. Technology can help provide the means to connect and network. The conservation community has a responsibility to help youth by inspiring those who have yet to care for nature, empowering young professionals already inspired to develop their capacities and networks, and by lending our time and experience as mentors -- recognizing that youth have as much to teach as they have to learn.

Addressing the Challenges of a Planet at the Crossroads

- *The Challenge of Sustaining the Global Food Supply and Conserving Nature*

The need to provide food for people has resulted in the intensification and industrialization of agriculture, including aquaculture, while traditionally farmed areas, biodiversity and natural ecosystems have been lost, and water resources have been depleted and degraded. Ecological communities and evolutionary processes have been disrupted. Ongoing use of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers affect the biodiversity and ecosystem services that support our food production systems, and we have lost crop genetic diversity, nitrified our freshwater and coastal ecosystems, and disrupted pollinator systems. Traditional farming practices are under pressure and associated knowledge is being lost.

Solutions: Providing global food security requires increasing the cost effectiveness of food production, reducing food loss in the distribution chain, decreasing the waste of food, changing food consumption preferences, and ensuring that water resources are managed sustainably. We need to generate the knowledge – and do so with urgency -- to create the ‘roadmap’ that can transform our complex food production/consumption systems so that they do not degrade the biodiversity and ecosystem services on which they depend. This will require bringing together currently fragmented organizations and initiatives, and reform of the current systems of counterproductive and perverse subsidies, taxes and other incentives, according to national circumstances. We must strengthen the governance system managing the food production system. While we need to increase overall efficiency of food, we must also maintain crop genetic diversity and local systems of production.

- *The Challenge of Preserving the Health of the World Ocean*

The world's oceans, and the communities that depend on them, are under immense and unprecedented human pressures. Sea level rise and natural disasters not only affect livelihoods but threaten human security. Destructive, illegal and unsustainable fishing practices deplete fish populations and degrade their habitats and spawning grounds. Mining activities, pollution and plastic debris threaten marine ecosystems and species, destroy life and jeopardize the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in the long term. The integrity and resilience of key ecosystems such as coral reefs and other ocean life are threatened by rising temperatures, depletion and pollution of terrestrial water flows, over-fishing, and ocean acidification

Solutions: Throughout the world, countries are embracing vast marine protected areas as an approach to support resilience and secure the future of humankind. The scale at which oceanic biological and ecological processes operate demands matching conservation efforts. The United States of America on August 31, 2016 expanded the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, making it the biggest protected area on the planet at 1,508,670 km². French Polynesia announced the creation of Taini Atea, a marine managed area covering their entire economic exclusive zone, a 5,000,000 km² area nearly half the size of Europe, building on the traditional management system of rāhui. Colombia has announced a quadrupling in size of the Malpelo Fauna and Flora Sanctuary bringing this UNESCO World Heritage site to 27,000 km². These were preceded by other designations of large scale marine protected areas by governments such as Palau. At the other end of the scale, there is a proliferation of locally managed marine areas. The total area of marine protected areas now exceeds that of land under protection and the rate of increase is an order of magnitude greater. However, protected area approaches alone are not sufficient, and linking diverse methods and tools, such as fisheries and coastal zone management, is essential if we are to solve the multiple, interacting challenges facing oceans. Ocean warming and acidification cannot be ignored. The pervasiveness of plastic waste in the ocean, and its effects on marine food chains demand that we find ways to “turn off the plastic tap”.

- *The Challenge of Ending Wildlife Trafficking*

The illegal trade in wildlife generates tens of billions of dollars for criminals every year and it continues to grow at an alarming rate. The involvement of organized criminal networks and militias pose a threat to national and international security as well as to social and economic development. The illegal trade in wildlife is leading to declines in the populations of target species, and often to their local extirpation, pushing some species to the brink of extinction. Local people lose access to the natural resources upon which they depend for their livelihoods, community integrity, and jobs.

Solutions: Stopping this illegal trade will require concerted efforts on many fronts: better protection of wildlife populations, both through laws and strengthened enforcement, behavioral change to reduce demand for these illegal products, and enhanced cooperation at all levels, including greater involvement of local communities. Solving this problem

requires an integrated approach that addresses the whole supply chain of illegal products – from source to consumer – and involves all stakeholders, national and local government, as well as local communities. Real outcomes can only be realized by addressing the needs of local people, so that the benefits of a legal economy outweigh those of the illegal economy.

- *The Challenge of Engaging with the Private Sector*

The finance sector is increasingly aware of the potential that investing in nature has for generating returns, both in natural capital stock and also in economic yield. The corporate sector is also cognizant of the importance of maintaining nature to secure supply chains and manage institutional risk, especially under the uncertain conditions that climate change brings. And the conservation community is pressing hard for everyone to acknowledge the undeniable urgency of sustaining nature for the future of humanity.

Solutions: Economic and legal systems are needed that reward communities and companies for actions and investments that protect and restore nature. Equally, economic activity that destroys and degrades nature should be viewed as an economic cost imposed on the capacity of humanity and the greater community of life to survive and flourish. There is a palpable and urgent need to significantly increase investment in conservation action from both public and private sector sources. A precondition for attracting private investment is that conservation opportunities exist at scale. Additionally, regulatory and policy regimes that create a level playing field for business operations and that incentivize private investment to promote conservation are necessary. Ultimately, a collaborative approach, including government, civil society and the private sector, is essential for success.

- *The Challenge of Climate Change*

Climate change is one the most pressing global challenges confronting humanity today. Healthy ecosystems – terrestrial, freshwater, marine and coastal – can act as powerful carbon sinks and reservoirs, and provide the basis for resilience to climate change impacts. Their better management, conservation and restoration – can make a crucial difference in enabling a low-carbon climate-resilient world, while also safeguarding biodiversity and aiding sustainable development. Furthermore, ecosystem-based adaptation helps reduce people's vulnerability to climate change impacts, providing significant co-benefits for local communities. Climate change is exacerbating the challenge of invasive alien species. The Paris Agreement recognizes the value of these ecosystem services and the importance of ensuring the integrity of all ecosystems, including oceans and the protection of biodiversity.

Solutions: The Paris Agreement confirms that the world community now accepts the reality of climate change, current and projected impacts, and the difficult fact that emissions from all sources must contract in line with what science prescribes to meet agreed targets. Nature-based solutions, such as protected areas, have become widely recognized as an essential component of a comprehensive approach to climate change mitigation and adaptation. Restoration of forests and peatlands are examples of such solutions. Critical to the successful implementation of the Paris Agreement is building trust across the full range of stakeholders, especially indigenous peoples and women in local communities, who engage directly in mitigating climate change. The conservation community's contributions are vital, providing solutions that reduce emissions, help vulnerable human communities

adapt, manage impacts on native species, strengthen biosecurity measures to control and eradicate invasive alien species, and generate co-benefits for sustainability.

Setting Sail

Such is the magnitude of the human ecological footprint, Island Earth's natural life support systems are straining to breaking point, imperiling the well-being and resilience of all life. Communities struggle everywhere to hold on to what is most precious, naturally and culturally. The forces of change can appear unrelenting.

The situation is urgent and a transformation is needed in the boldness of our aspirations, the strengths of our efforts, and the weight of our investments. Acting with a sense of responsibility for our planet and in solidarity, conservationists offer solutions for some of the world's most pressing environmental challenges.

Nature-based solutions have been shown - in many different settings and in both developed and developing countries - to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, help communities adapt to climate change impacts, reduce the risk of natural disasters, and support sustainable livelihoods.

Connected systems of protected areas, whether on land or sea, when effectively managed and governed, provide sanctuary for biodiversity and generate an extraordinary range of benefits for people. Ecosystem services from these protected areas contribute to human health and wellbeing.

Our problems are complex, values are contested, and the future uncertain. Strong partnerships are needed to implement conservation at the scales required. We need to broaden and deepen the global dialogue about how we relate to nature, motivate collective action, and ensure that nature-based solutions are fair, just and enduring. The conservation community will meet these challenges emboldened by the creativity of human imagination, empowered by scientific and traditional knowledge, and inspired by the spirit of Aloha Aloha 'Āina.

Annex 5

Heads of Delegation of IUCN Members taking part in the Members' Assembly

STATES

Australia

Australian Government
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SULLIVAN, Sean

Azerbaijan

Ministry of Ecology and Natural
Resources of Azerbaijan
SALMANOV, Ruslan

Bangladesh

Ministry of Environment and
Forest
PAUL, Ashit Ranjan

Belgium

Politique scientifique fédérale
EGGERMONT, Hilde

Bhutan

Ministry of Agriculture and
Forests
DORJI, Lyonpo Yeshey

Botswana

Ministry of Environment Wildlife
and Tourism
MAGOSI, Elias

Burkina Faso

Ministère de l'Environnement, de
l'Economie verte et du
Changement Climatique
BASSIERE, Batio

Canada

Parks Canada Agency - Agence
Parcs Canada
WONG, Mike

China

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
ZHANG, Yongli

Costa Rica

Ministerio de Ambiente y
Energía
CHAVES, Guido

Ecuador

Ministerio de Relaciones
Exteriores
ROCHA, Pamela

El Salvador

Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y
Recursos Naturales de El
Salvador
QUEZADA DÍAZ, Jorge Ernesto

Estonia

Ministry of the Environment of
the Republic of Estonia
SEPP, Kalev

Fiji

Fiji Environment
WYCLIFFE, Joshua

Finland

Ministry of the Environment of
Finland
VON WEISSENBERG, Marina

France

Ministère des Affaires
étrangères et du Développement
international
STICKER, Xavier

Georgia

Ministry of Environment and
Natural Resources Protection of
Georgia
GRIGALAVA, Ekaterine

Germany

Federal Ministry for the
Environment, Nature
Conservation, Construction and
Nuclear Safety
SCHMITZ, Joachim

India

Ministry of Environment, Forest
& Climate Change
CHANDRA, Kailash

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Department of the Environment -
Tehran
FAZEL, Asghar M.

Japan

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
Japan
WATANABE, Hideto

Jordan

Ministry of Environment
BANI HANI, Raed

Lao People's Democratic Republic

Ministère des Affaires
étrangères
KEOVONGVICHITH,
Phetsamone

Lesotho

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and
International Relations
OTABOTABO, Mamasheane

Madagascar

Ministère de l'Environnement, de
l'Ecologie et des Forêts
RABETALIANA
SCHACHENMANN, Hanta

Mauritius

Ministry of Agro Industry and
Food Security
GONDEEA, Vishnou

Mexico

Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y
Recursos Naturales
RHODES ESPINOZA, Andrew

Mongolia

Ministry of Environment, Green
Development and Tourism
CHILKHAJAV, Batsansar

Morocco

Haut Commissariat aux Eaux et
Forêts et à la Lutte contre la
Désertification
AMHAOUCH, Zouhair

Nepal

Department of National Parks
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ACHARYA, Krishna Prasad

New Zealand

Department of Conservation
BOOTH, Kay

Niger

Ministère des Affaires
Étrangères, de la Coopération et
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BOUBACAR, Amadou

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Ministry of Climate and
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SOLHAUG, Tone

Oman

Ministry of Environment and
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AL SARIRI, Thuraiya

Pakistan

National Council for Conservation of Wildlife, Ministry of Climate Change
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Palau

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DE YCAZA, Ricardo

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KREVER, Olga

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Ministry of Natural Resources
NKURUNZIZA, Emmanuel

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Presidency of Meteorology & Environment
ASSAGGAF, Mohammad

Senegal

Ministère de l'Environnement et du développement durable
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MANCOTYWA, Skumsa

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Ministerio de Agricultura, Alimentación y Medio Ambiente
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Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation
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Ministry of Economic Affairs
LOK, Martin

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Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change & Communications (MEIDECC)
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Ministère de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable
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International Dialogue for
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Bahamas National Trust
ANDERSON, Lakeshia

Bahrain

Bahrain Women Association for
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KADHEMI, Mahnaz

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Bangladesh POUSH
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NUE, HLA SHING

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Shushilan
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ACTION Plus
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Liga de Defensa del Medio Ambiente
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DUKIC, Branislava

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SENYATSO, Kabelo

Kalahari Conservation Society
AUTLWETSE, Baboloki

University of Botswana
SEKHWELA, Mogodiseng

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ALONSO, Luiza

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DE OLIVEIRA COSTA, José Pedro

Boticario Foundation for Nature Protection
SILVA NUNES, Maria de Lourdes

Center for Environmental Research of Northeast
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Ecoa - Ecology and Action
SIQUEIRA, André Luiz

Instituto Çarakura
SIMOES PIRES, Joao Daniel

Instituto Conservation International do Brasil
MEDEIROS, Rodrigo

Instituto de Conservação e Desenvolvimento Sustentável do Amazonas
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Instituto de Desenvolvimento Sustentável Mamirauá
LIMA QUEIROZ, Helder

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CAPPELLI, Silvia

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Sociedade Civil Mamiraua
ALVES, Ana Rita

Victoria Amazonica Foundation
LOPEZ DA SILVA, Fabiano

Wildlife Conservation Society
DURIGAN, Carlos César

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Association intervillageoise de Gestion des Ressources Naturelles et de la Faune de la Comoé-Léraba
KARAMA, Mamadou

Association nationale d'action rurale
OUEDRAOGO, O. AHMED

Association Nodde Nooto
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