

**IUCN
WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS
5–14 October 2008**

Election of the IUCN Regional Councillors

Action Requested: The World Conservation Congress is requested to:

- a) TAKE NOTE of the report of the Election Officer for the World Conservation Congress (Annex 1); and
- b) ELECT Regional Councillors (up to three for each Region) from among the candidates listed in Annex 2.

Background

1. In accordance with Articles 28 and 39 of the Statutes and Regulations 36 to 40, the Director General wrote to members of IUCN in Categories A and B by registered mail on 7 September 2007, inviting nominations for candidates from their Region for election as Councillors. This communication was also sent by electronic mail on 13 September 2007.
2. The Regions defined in the Statutes are:
 - (a) Africa
 - (b) Meso and South America
 - (c) North America and the Caribbean
 - (d) South and East Asia
 - (e) West Asia
 - (f) Oceania
 - (g) East Europe, North and Central Asia
 - (h) West Europe

and the list of States belonging to each of the eight Regions is annexed hereto (Annex 3).
3. The 67th Meeting of the IUCN Council (14–16 May 2007) appointed Dr Antonio Machado, former IUCN Regional Councillor for West Europe, member of the Statutes Review Committee and Election Officer for the Bangkok World Conservation Congress, who is not a candidate for election, as Election Officer for the World Conservation Congress, Barcelona, Spain, 2008. Dr Machado's report to the World Conservation Congress is attached at Annex 1.
4. The nomination form, distributed under cover of the Director General's letter to members, indicated that nominations for Regional Councillors were to be addressed to the Election Officer at the IUCN Secretariat for receipt not later than 31 January 2008. The Election Officer ruled that the date of receipt noted in the Nominations Register by the Secretariat at Headquarters should be accepted as the only evidence of the actual date of reception.
5. In accordance with the Statutes, nominations for candidates from a Region for election as Regional Councillors must be made by five members eligible to vote or ten per cent of all such members in that Region, whichever is lower, in both cases drawn from more than one State.
6. The Election Officer reviewed the nominations received as at the deadline of 31 January 2008 and decided that there were insufficient nominations from the Africa and North America and Caribbean Regions. The Election Officer therefore obtained the authority of the Council to extend the deadline for receipt of nominations from these two Regions, to 31 March 2008. IUCN members in these regions were duly informed in writing by the Director General.

7. The nominations contained in this paper reflect the situation as at 31 March 2008.
8. Annex 2 to this paper has been prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with instructions given by the Election Officer on the basis of his report. It lists, in alphabetical order, the candidates nominated for each Region and contains brief background information on each candidate.
9. The background information for each candidate is presented according to the headings laid out on the nomination form, namely current employment and position/title; experience in fields of concern to IUCN; and particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor.
10. Regional Councillors elected by the World Conservation Congress will serve for the term extending from the close of the World Conservation Congress in Barcelona until the close of the next ordinary session of the Congress.
11. The election of Regional Councillors will be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress.

Election of IUCN Regional Councillors

Report to the World Conservation Congress by the Election Officer

1. By 31 January 2008, the original deadline for receipt of nominations, a total of 30 candidates had been nominated. In view of the fact that only two candidacies had been received for each of the Africa and North America and Caribbean Regions, I requested and obtained the authority of Council to extend the deadline for receipt of nominations for these two regions until 31 March 2008. IUCN members in the Africa and North America and Caribbean Regions were informed by the Director General and additional copies of the nomination forms were circulated.
2. I have now reviewed the files from the Secretariat containing for each of the candidates for whom nominations were received by the initial deadline of 31 January 2008 and by the extended deadline of 31 March 2008 for the Africa and North America and Caribbean regions, copies of:
 - (a) completed nomination forms or letters, telefaxes or emails of nomination;
 - (b) letters, telefaxes or signed nomination forms indicating willingness to serve if elected.
3. In appraising the validity of these proposals, I have not recommended any disqualification of a nomination on grounds of form or presentation. This is in accord with the approach adopted for previous sessions of the World Conservation Congress. The results of my consideration of the nominations in relation to each candidate, listed according to the Regions prescribed in Article 16 of the Statutes, are set out in the attachment to the paper. The candidates are listed in alphabetical order, starting at the letter "T" which was chosen at random.
4. For ease of reference, the substantive requirements for a valid nomination are summarised as follows:
 - (a) Nominator to be a current voting member of a Region;
 - (b) Nominee to be:
 - within the Region of the nominator;
 - a national of a State in the Region;
 - a resident of a State in the Region;
 - willing to serve if elected;
 - a candidate who has not held the same office consecutively for two full terms.
 - (c) Nominee must be nominated by five members eligible to vote or ten per cent of all voting members in the Region whichever is lower, in both cases drawn from more than one State (Regulation 38 to the IUCN Statutes).
 - (d) Nominations, in whatever form, must be received by the Secretariat by the date prescribed by the Council.
5. The number of nominations required per candidate per Region at the time of mailing the call for nominations was as set out in the table in paragraph 9 below.
6. Issues of form and presentation **not** invalidating a nomination include:
 - (a) unsigned forms of nomination (providing there was an accompanying signed letter from the member),
 - (b) absence of undertaking to serve (provided that at least one of the nomination forms received for the candidate had been signed or was accompanied by a letter confirming willingness to stand).

7. In her letter to members of 7 September 2007, the Director General indicated that the validity of nominations was based on the payment of membership dues up to and including 2007.
8. To comply with the Regulatory requirement to include the number of nominations received per validly nominated candidate, I have included a figure in brackets after each name in the list of candidates indicating the number of nominations received on or before the deadline date of 31 January 2008 or in the case of Africa and North America and the Caribbean, the extended deadline of 31 March 2008.
- 9.

IUCN Regions	Number of members eligible to vote	Number of nominations required per candidate
(a) Africa	96	5
(b) Meso and South America	111	5
(c) N. America and the Caribbean	92	5
(d) South and East Asia	96	5
(e) West Asia	37	4
(f) Oceania	35	4
(g) E. Europe, N. and Central Asia	45	5
(h) West Europe	243	5

Attachment 1 Nominations for Regional Councillors

1. Position based on:

- (a) Completed nomination forms or letters, telefaxes or e-mails of nomination.
- (b) Signed nomination forms or letters, telefaxes, or known intent of willingness to serve if elected.
- (c) Other communications with the Secretariat relating to the nominations.

2. Regions are as prescribed in Article 16 of the Statutes.

(a) Africa

Yolan Friedmann, South Africa (9)	Nomination valid in every respect
Brahim Haddane, Morocco (6)	Nomination valid in every respect
David Mabunda, South Africa (6)	Nomination valid in every respect
Hillary Masundire, Zimbabwe (5)	Nomination valid in every respect
Accel Ndinga-Makanda, Congo (6)	Nomination valid in every respect
Timothy Snow, South Africa (5)	Nomination valid in every respect

(b) Meso and South America

Claudio Maretti, Brazil (5)	Nomination valid in every respect
Miguel Pellerano, Argentina (5)	Nomination valid in every respect
Zuleika S. Pinzón, Panama (17)	Nomination valid in every respect

(c) North America and the Caribbean

Spencer Linus Thomas, Grenada (6)	Nomination valid in every respect
George Greene, Canada (5)	Nomination valid in every respect
Sixto Inchaustegui, Dominican Republic (5)	Nomination valid in every respect
Russ Mittermeier, USA (6)	Nomination valid in every respect

(d) South and East Asia

Monthip S. Tabucanon, Thailand (5)	Nomination valid in every respect
Mahfuz Ullah, Bangladesh (5)	Nomination valid in every respect
Arzu Rana Deuba, Nepal (5)	Nomination valid in every respect
Hiroharu Koike, Japan (6)	Nomination valid in every respect
Tej Kumar Shrestha, Nepal (5)	Nomination valid in every respect

(e) West Asia

Saif Ali Al-Hajari, Qatar (4)	Nomination valid in every respect
Abdul Aziz Mohammad Al-Mohanna, Saudi Arabia (4)	Nomination valid in every respect
Samira Omar Asem, Kuwait (4)	Nomination valid in every respect
Ali H. Darwish, Lebanon (8)	Nomination valid in every respect
Javed Jabbar, Pakistan (11)	Nomination valid in every respect
Mohammad Shahbaz, Jordan (9)	Nomination valid in every respect

(f) Oceania

Lionel Gibson, Fiji (4)	Nomination valid in every respect
Brendan Mackey, Australia (6)	Nomination valid in every respect
Diana Shand, New Zealand (4)	Nomination valid in every respect

(g) East Europe, North and Central Asia

Ivan Voloscuk, Slovakia (6)	Nomination valid in every respect
Amirkhan Amirkhanov, Russia (8)	Nomination valid in every respect
Vilmos Kizsel, Hungary (11)	Nomination valid in every respect
Jasminka Milosevic, Serbia (11)	Nomination valid in every respect
Kalev Sepp, Estonia (8)	Nomination valid in every respect

(h) West Europe

Marina von Weissenberg, Finland (6)	Nomination valid in every respect
Hans de Jongh, Netherlands (6)	Nomination valid in every respect
Christophe Lefebvre, France (19)	Nomination valid in every respect

Notes

1. The figures in brackets after the name of each candidate indicate the number of nominations received for the candidate.
2. Candidates are listed in alphabetical order of surnames within their Regions, starting at the letter "T" chosen at random (in accordance with Regulation 40).

Background Information on Candidates for Election as Regional councillors

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AS REGIONAL COUNCILLORS – AFRICA

FRIEDMANN, Yolán (South Africa)

Current employment and position/title:

Chief Executive Officer: Endangered Wildlife Trust, a non-profit environmental NGO working throughout sub-Saharan Africa, with over 100 projects and 75 full-time staff.

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

- Environmental management, biodiversity conservation and species conservation
- Species assessments (e.g. Red Data Lists) and strategic/action planning, environmental law
- Project development and implementation and strategic planning
- International treaties and conventions and local implementation issues
- Capacity building, especially in developing countries
- Managing an environmental / biodiversity conservation NGO including governance, admin, policy development, project management, human resources, public relations, financial management, fundraising etc.
- Understanding of the interface between social, environmental and economic imperatives
- Broad expertise in sustainable development issues and commitments to equity and justice
- Facilitating regional political cooperation and projects
- Chairing various IUCN National and Regional Committees and bodies

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

- Chairing a National Committee of the IUCN for five years (South African) and the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) for southern African for 2 terms
- Involvement in several IUCN SSC Specialist Groups (e.g. Cat Specialist Group, Antelope Specialist Group, Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG))
- Publication of the Red Data Book of the Mammals of South Africa
- Establishment of a regional CBSG network in 2001 and implementation of more than 20 projects (species action plans, conservation assessments, training and capacity building, etc.)
- Knowledge of and experience with local and regional conservation issues and concerns
- A solid network of contacts and partners throughout the southern African region
- Experience working with the IUCN partners and members throughout southern and East Africa
- Participation in many IUCN workshops and conferences including the 2004 WCC, the World Parks Congress, the National Committees' Meeting (Den Haag, 2005) and regional members' meetings
- Development of resolutions and motions for the 2004 WCC (all of which were accepted)
- Participation in the South Africa Steering Committee for the World Parks Congress
- Solid understanding of IUCN structure and operations, exposure to operation of the IUCN Council as an invited observer of the November 2007 IUCN Council Meeting, in South Africa
- International networking and partnership development
- Representation of members' interests in regional/international fora and with partner organizations
- A passion for African species, places and people

HADDANE, Brahim (Morocco)

Current employment and position/title:

Director, Botanical Gardens, Salé, Morocco
Secretary General of the Moroccan National Committee for IUCN

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Very active in all fields currently being developed by IUCN, including nature conservation, sustainable management of natural resources, preservation of biological diversity and natural ecosystems. Mr Haddane is particularly interested in questions of social equity and benefit-sharing.

Environmental education is a priority in his daily work.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

- The candidate is very knowledgeable of the structures of the Union, how they work and their relations with partners.
- He speaks the Union's three working languages fluently.
- He has good relations with members of the Union in the region.
- He has the support of National and Regional members.
- He is in a position to fulfil his mission in the best possible conditions.

MABUNDA, David (South Africa)**Current employment and position/title:**

Dr Mabunda is currently Chief Executive of South African Parks.

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Dr Mabunda, besides being overall in charge of 22 national parks encompassing over 3,500,000 hectares in South Africa, has provided leadership in nature conservation on the entire African continent. Some of the key highlights of his roles include:

- Being the driving force behind the Leadership for Conservation in Africa (LCA) under which, for the first time in history, African conservation and business leaders have a platform through which they can discuss matters of common interest and share experiences and lessons for the improvement of biodiversity conservation in Africa.
- Under his management, South Africa has taken leadership in the establishment and development of Transfrontier Conservation Areas, which are being adopted through Africa as a means of effectively managing shared biodiversity and sustainably utilizing such resources.
- South African Parks, under David's leadership, has been most innovative in integrating conservation business and management of protected areas, thus contributing substantially to the sustainable financing of protected areas. This is one of the major challenges that constrain effective management of protected areas in Africa. Hence, Dr Mabunda would share his experiences with other Councillors on how protected areas can be sustainably financed.

As Regional Councillor, Dr Mabunda would bring vast experience into the IUCN's policy making body, which would be valuable to IUCN, its members and biodiversity conservation.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

In addition to the qualities specified above, Dr Mabunda is a highly respected individual in Africa in the field of nature conservation and would, therefore, serve and meet the expectations of the region. His qualifications (PhD in Ecotourism), commitment to conservation, understanding and providing leadership in sustainable development, broad network within Africa's conservation and business communities and his long-term collaboration with IUCN in his work, makes him the ideal nominee as a Regional Councillor.

MASUNDIRE, Hillary (Zimbabwe)

Current employment and position/title:

Ecologist/Senior Lecturer, University of Botswana

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

- Ecosystem Management
- Inland Biodiversity
- Wetlands Ecology
- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Environmental Policy
- Development Planning
- Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Dr Hillary Masundire has contributed to the work of the IUCN in various ways over the last 20 years at national, regional and global levels. He is about to complete his term of office as the first ever elected African Chair of an IUCN Commission – the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM).

He has been involved in national issues e.g. the development of the Botswana National Wetlands Policy and the Okavango Delta Management Plan; in regional issues e.g. environmental flows and impacts of major water infrastructure developments and in global issues e.g. application of the Ecosystem Approach in the CBD and the CCD.

Dr Masundire is quite familiar with the conservation issues pertaining to Africa in general and to East and Southern Africa in particular. In his capacity as the global Chair of the CEM, he has been involved in many global conservation issues including climate change, biodiversity loss and ecosystem restoration. He has served on Council as a member of the Programme and Policy Committee, Finance and Audit Committee and the Bureau. He has the experience to effectively represent Africa as a Regional Councillor.

NDINGA MAKANDA, Accel Arnaud (Congo)

Current employment and position/title:

- Regional IUCN Councillor for Africa
- Deputy of the National Assembly
- Rapporteur for the Commission on Development, Environment, Urbanism and Habitats; and Head of Research
- Responsible for Education at the Marien Ngouabi University of Brazzaville

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

- Research and Environmental Attaché with the Ministry of Scientific and Environmental Affairs
- Coordinator of the Research segment of the Nouabalé-Ndoki Project (participated in drafting the Congo GEF Project)
- Manager of the National Forestry Action Plan (NFAP, formerly Tropical Forest Action Plan (TFAP)) and of the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP)
- Member of the Scientific Committee of the Mayombe Project and instigator of the Dimonkia Biosphere Reserve
- Member of the Monitoring Committee for PROGECAP (GEF-Congo Project)
- Member of the Organizing Committee of the Conference on Ecosystems of the Dense Rain Forests of Central Africa (French acronym, CEFDHAC)
- President of the “Information Communication and Telematics” chapter of the Regional Programme for the Management of Environmental Information (RPMEI) (National coordinator of the Meta-Database Project)
- Member of the CEFDHAC Contact Group, Congo

- Director of the Office of the Minister of the Forest Economy, Fisheries and the Environment
- President of the Department of the Council of Sangha from 2003 to 2007

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Spoken languages: English, French, Kituba, Lingale and Russian
 Very good knowledge of information technology

- Collaborator with the Centre for Scientific Research of the Soviet Documentation and Cultural Information Institute (Informcultura) in the study relating to the UNESCO International Thesaurus of Cultural Development (ITCD). Co-author of the Russian edition of the ITCD published pursuant to a contract between the USSR and UNESCO (1982–1985)
- Co-author of the evaluation and update study on the creation of the *Centre National de Documentation et d'Information Scientifique et Technique* (CNDIST) (National Documentation and Scientific and Technical Information Centre) carried out by Mr Omar DIOP, Expert of the ACCT
- Member of the Expert Committee of the Patent Documentation and Information Department (French acronym, DEDIB) of the African Intellectual Property Organization (French acronym, OAPI)
- Alternate Professor at the *Ecole Supérieure du Parti* (graduate school): Communications Sciences and Technologies stream (1988–1991)
- National Coordinator of the Monitoring Group for the Development of the Nouabalé-Ndoki Reserve (since 1989)
- Administrator of the *Unité d'Afforestation Industrielle du Congo* (Congo Industrial Reforestation Unit) (UAIC S.A., 1991–1994)
- President of the Governing Council of the UAIC (1992–1994)
- Administrator and President of the Governing Councils of the *Congolaise du Développement Forestier* (CDF) (Congo Forest Development Association) and the *Congolaise des Bois Imprégnés* (CBI) (Congo Impregnated Woods Association) from 1991 to 1994
- National Coordinator responsible for the follow-up and implementation of the recommendations of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Application of Science and Technology for Development in Africa (CASTAFRICA II)
- Alternate Professor in the Department of Communications Sciences and Technologies attached to the Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences at Marien Ngouabi University (since 1992)
- Bureau Member of the Research Unit on the Productivity of Industrial Plantations, acronym UR2PI (from 1997–)
- Participant in the National Forum for Reconciliation, Unity, Democracy and Reconstruction of the Congo (1998)
- Author of many publications

SNOW, Timothy (South Africa)

Current employment and position/title:

Endangered Wildlife Trust, Manager, Wildlife Conflict Prevention Group & Chief of Field Staff
 Past Chairman, Game Rangers Association of Africa

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

- Protected Areas Management
- Environmental Management
- Environmental Pollution/Chemicals
- Environmental Law
- Public & Environmental Health

Chair of Game Rangers Association of Africa 2004–2006. Appointed to the Africa portfolio which entails liaison with all African members and African Associations since 2003. Communications Portfolio Manager 1998–2003, Executive Committee member since 1998 and professional member since 1984.

Elected as International Executive Council member of the International Ranger Federation (member IUCN-WCPA) at the 4th IRF Congress in Australia in April 2003. Elected as the African Continental Representative on this Council at the 4th IRF Congress. Retired from this position in February 2007.

In capacity as Chair of Game Rangers Association of Africa, attended the World Conservation Congress in Bangkok to submit a motion on the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and to support motions proposed by other South African members. Attended the World Parks Congress in Durban, South Africa, September 2003 to address the issue of Threats to Protected Areas by participation in formulating IUCN resolutions in this regard. Intends to submit a motion to the 2008 World Conservation Congress on Protection of the Protectors (rangers).

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Timothy Snow readily accepts leadership positions, as indicated by his instrumental role in the establishment of both the (South African) National Avian Conflict Advisory Forum and the National Chemical Crime Management Forum. Both were established in response to needs, and by drawing in parties at top levels, who through their concern or influence could make a positive difference in those fields. His role in the many other committees is out of a passion to be involved and make a difference through that involvement. He participates actively in whatever he is involved in.

He has a strong leadership background in the conservation field. He started as a ranger in the field in 1978. He has been involved in the Game Rangers Association of Africa (GRAA) since 1984; he chaired the GRAA from 2004 until he chose to retire from that position due to other commitments in February 2007. He still holds the Africa liaison portfolio and represents GRAA on the IUCN South Africa Committee. He served on the International Executive Council of the International Ranger Federation from 2003 to 2006. He is particularly concerned about the environmental threats at field level, and strives to improve the situation for staff in the field by creating awareness of problem and threat issues at all levels. He has almost 30 years of conservation experience in both the field and the boardroom. He is generally a balanced person.

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AS REGIONAL COUNCILLORS – MESO AND SOUTH AMERICA

MARETTI, Claudio (Brazil)

Current employment and position/title:

Director of Conservation for Regional Programs, WWF-Brazil; he participates in the formulation of international conservation and sustainable development policies as a member of the Conservation Committee of WWF's global network.

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Mr Maretti has led a very diversified professional life. However, the main thrust of his work has been to focus on planning (regional, environmental, etc.) and environmental management. Connecting these activities to societal interests, especially those of local communities, has always been of particular concern to him.

He is a specialist in marine protected areas, to which he has devoted himself for more than 20 years. He also has considerable experience in international projects related to natural resource management, including working with local communities.

He has long been active in southeastern Brazil, especially the coastal areas. For nearly five years he lived and concentrated his professional work on the west coast of Africa. He has also worked as a consultant in other regions of the world.

For the last five years he has devoted his work especially to Amazonia. There, he has participated both in the largest *in situ* conservation project in the world and in developing the pan-Amazonian strategy for sustainable development.

He currently has national responsibility for conservation and sustainable development projects and for formulating international action policies in these areas.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

An understanding of and a dedication to the IUCN for more than 20 years, through participation in various functions: staff, Commission member and vice-president, and the IUCN Council.

Strategic and general vision, with the capability to formulate and evaluate conservation and sustainable development policies.

A strong connection with the requirements of the region, with its socioeconomic needs, and with conservation and sustainable development projects, including those in the countryside.

PELLERANO, Miguel (Argentina)**Current employment and position/title:**

Sub-secretary of Planning and Environmental Policy, Environment and Sustainable Development Secretariat, Argentina

He has also worked as an independent contractor in specific cases.

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

The candidate is a member of two IUCN Commissions: the Commission on Education and Communication (CEC) and the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) where he has always carried out his responsibilities with great professionalism and commitment.

Between May of 2002 and October of 2005 he was the representative of the IUCN Regional Office for South America (SUR), working diligently to develop the alliances and strategies of the National Committees, and to initiate activities in South America to unite global and regional themes.

He has had a close working relationship not only with the IUCN Secretariat, but also in the South (his main arena of work). He has also worked closely with the ORCA project and with the main international conservation organizations such as WWF, CI, and TNC. However, he is mainly recognized for having a close working relationship and constant contact with many members of IUCN in the region, as well as specialists on the various IUCN Commissions.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

He has been one of the principal driving forces for the Inca Road/Gran Ruta Inca project as a means of linking and establishing work relationships among the National Committees and the sub-region.

Mr Pellerano has known IUCN for many years and is capable of being a great interlocutor among the members, the Commissions, and the Council.

Mr Pellerano has extensive experience in the area of international negotiations, before the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Cambios Climáticos/Climate Changes, the Comunidad Andina/Andean Community (CAN), and CAF, where his presence and his dedication to biological diversity is well known. Educated in the biological sciences, he specialized in protected area management, and has received training in conflict resolution techniques.

Mr Pellerano speaks English, Portuguese and Italian fluently and has a fair command of French.

He is internationally known for his lobbying skills and abilities in supporting fund management teams.

- Diploma in Natural Sciences, Colegio Nacional #9 high school, Buenos Aires
- Biological/Veterinary Sciences, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Certificate in Protected Natural Areas Management, National Parks Administration Institute (APN), Argentina
- Social Psychology, Private Institute of Social Psychology, Buenos Aires
- Masters in International Relations, Latin American School of Social Sciences (FLACSO), Buenos Aires

PINZÓN, Zuleika S. (Panama)

Current employment and position/title:

- Executive Director of the Foundation for the Conservation of Natural Resources, NATURA
- President of the Panamanian Committee of IUCN
- Member of the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management
- Member of the Executive Committee of the Network of Environmental Funds of Latin America and the Caribbean (RedLAC)
- Member of the National Committee on Wetlands
- Member of the National Biosciences Commission

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Ms Pinzón has more than 20 years of experience in projects relating to conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources, protected areas, buffer zones, diverse communities, non-governmental organizations, and community-based organizations. She actively participates in the activities of IUCN at the national as well as the regional level. She was a member of the IUCN-Mesoamerica's Technical Advisory Committee on Wetlands, a member of the Commission on Ecosystem Management, and she currently chairs the Panamanian Committee of IUCN. She was selected to represent Panamanian grass roots environmental groups before important national and international initiatives, such as the Dialogue for National Coordination of Development, the Scientific Committee of Coiba National Park, the International Centre for Sustainable Development, the Central American watershed management "think-tank", among others. She was recognized as a "Distinguished Environmentalist" by the mayor's office of Panama City and nominated as a "Distinguished Environmentalist" by the National Environmental Authority. She participated in the Working Group on Coastal Marine Ecosystems, and in drafting the National Strategy on the Environment and the National Strategic Plan on Science, Technology and Innovation. She is a technical reviewer for scientific documents and publications and she initiated two environmental awards in her country.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Recognized by IUCN-Mesoamerica as one of the conservation leaders of the region, she is knowledgeable about the IUCN thematic areas. She has experience in IUCN's areas of work, and participates actively in its work in the region. She does this with a high sense of commitment to the membership and with a concern for strengthening this work based on the principles of IUCN. She has a holistic focus and experience in project administration, strategic planning and operations, organizational management, budget planning, environmental funds investment, and management of financial resources. She possesses international experience, at the level of committees, forums and work groups, in conservation and environment thematic areas, as well as in inter-institutional relations and coordination. She also has experience with governmental agencies, international, bilateral and multilateral cooperation, the private sector, indigenous peoples, international organizations, and organized citizens' organizations, from the community to the national level. She has more than 10 years' experience preparing and evaluating projects on the national and international level. She has directed and efficiently and effectively administered the most important environmental funds in her country. Panama, as a State member of IUCN, supports her. It is a country that has distinguished itself regionally and globally in the area of climate change and now faces important challenges with the widening of the Panama Canal.

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AS REGIONAL COUNCILLORS – NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

GREENE, George (Canada)

Current employment and position/title:

George Greene is Chair of Stratos – Strategies to Sustainability, a values-based consultancy based in Ottawa and working across Canada and internationally.

He advises industry associations on the design and implementation of sustainability initiatives including biodiversity strategies and engagement of indigenous peoples and community and national-level stakeholders.

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

George Greene has worked since the early 1970s on environmental management and sustainable development issues across Canada and internationally. He has held positions with resource industries, governments, international organizations, and NGOs. He has conducted studies and reviews for the Convention on Biological Diversity, including a capacity building framework for biosafety, a management review of the CBD Secretariat, and the third Review of the Financial Mechanism to the CBD (the GEF). He has led an international team which has developed an international best practice standard for access to genetic resources and benefit sharing.

He has long experience with the management and governance of multi-interest programmes and organizations. As Assistant Director General of IUCN – The World Conservation Union in the mid-late 1990s, his responsibilities included being the right-hand to the President (Chair of the Council), supporting effective decision making by biannual meetings of the 36 member Council, ensuring responsiveness to IUCN's government and NGO members around the world, and external relations including communications and donor relations. He also oversaw the management services for this \$100 million organization with a staff of 900.

Mr Greene served as Co-Chair, together with the World Bank, to the Interim Working Group which established the World Commission on Dams – a multi-stakeholder body of governments, environmental NGOs, community groups, dam builders and investors. As Chair of the Resolutions Committee for the 1994 IUCN General Assembly, he mediated and managed the process in which governments and NGOs negotiated 100 resolutions on environment and development issues. In 1996, he had overall responsibility for the design, planning and conduct of the World Conservation Congress and General Assembly of IUCN, a meeting of 3300 participants.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

We feel that George Greene has particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor given his extensive experience within both IUCN and the North America and Caribbean region.

Experience with the World Conservation Union (IUCN):

- Member, Commission on Environmental Planning/Commission on Sustainable Development (1984–1990)
- Chair, Task Force on Review of the Commission on Education and Communications (1993)
- Chair of the Resolutions Committee, IUCN General Assembly, Buenos Aires (1994)
- Assistant Director General, IUCN (1995–1999)
- Member of the Board, Canadian Committee for IUCN (2000–2005)
- President, Canadian Committee for IUCN 2005–present

He has led numerous large-group processes, many of them involving diverse and often conflicting sets of stakeholders. In the spring of 2002, Mr Greene led the design and facilitation of the National Stakeholder Workshops on Climate Change. He provided strategic advice and analytical support for three years to the Canadian National Roundtable on the Environment and the Economy's Environmental and Sustainable Development Indicator (ESDI) program, including on the work of the ESDI Steering Committee. In 2004, he moderated two multi-stakeholder workshops on energy and climate change for the NRTEE, and one on economic instruments for long-term carbon emission reductions.

As Director General of Policy Development at the Canadian International Development Agency, he served as a member of the inter-departmental management committee which guided Canadian preparations for the World Summit on Environment and Development. At CIDA he instituted a sustainable development policy base to guide the Agency's programming. He has led a number of international negotiating teams for Canada including as Canadian Representative to the Global Environment Facility, the Convention to Combat Desertification, and the World Summit on Social Development. He served 5 years as Chair of the Sierra Club of Canada Advisory Board.

INCHÁUSTEGUI, Sixto J. (Dominican Republic)

Current employment and position/title:

Coordinator, Environment and Renewable Energy Unit, United Nations Development Programs (PNUD)-Dominican Republic
Member of the Board of Directors, Grupo Jaragua, Dominican Republic

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Participation in the processes related to biodiversity management and conservation for the last 38 years in the Dominican Republic, as well as in regional Caribbean, Latin American, and global processes.

Participation in activities related to IUCN since 1978. Co-organizer of the First Colloquium on Conservation (Centre for Biological and Marine Studies-Santo Domingo Autonomous University, with the participation of the IUCN, 1978). Member during different periods of various IUCN Specialist Groups (crocodiles, iguanas, tortoises and turtles, amphibians, protected areas). Former Vice-President for the Caribbean of the Protected Areas Commission, elected at the Fourth World Congress on Parks, held in Caracas. Participant in the Global Evaluation of Amphibians and in the Global Evaluation of Mammals. Founding member of two member organizations of IUCN in the Dominican Republic: the Centre for the Conservation and Ecodevelopment of Samaná Bay and its Surroundings (CEBSE) and the Grupo Jaragua. Current member of the Board of Directors of Grupo Jaragua. Member of the Dominican Commission of IUCN. First organizer of the Caribbean Biodiversity Congresses held at Santo Domingo Autonomous University. (The Fourth Congress was dedicated to me; the Sixth Congress was recently held in January, 2008.) Nominated for the Goldman Environment Prize. Honorary Member of the Cuban Zoological Society. Recipient of the Presidential Prize for Professional Excellence 2000.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Broad experience for more than 30 years in regional, national, and global conservation; in university teaching; in research; and in the development of international cooperation projects. Has the capability to interact flexibly in interdisciplinary and multicultural environments. First hand knowledge of the structure, functioning mechanisms, and objectives of IUCN. Conflict management abilities. Able to effectively relate to third parties. Command of the English language.

MITTERMEIER, Russell (USA)

Current employment and position/title:

- President Conservation International Foundation (1989–present)
- Chairman, IUCN/SSC Primate Specialist Group (1977–present)
- Member, Executive Committee, SSC (ca 1985–present)
- President, Margot Marsh Biodiversity Foundation (1996–present)
- Adjunct Professor, Dept, of Anatomical Sciences, State University of New York at Stony Brook (1990–present)

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Mr Mittermeier has worked with IUCN since 1974, at which time he became a member of the Species Survival Commission. He has chaired the Primate Specialist Group since 1977. Through the PSG, the first ever Action Plans were produced and the group initiated the series “Occasional Papers of the SSC”. The PSG produced four newsletters and one journal since 1981.

Mr Mittermeier also serves on the Executive Committee of the Freshwater Turtle and Tortoise Specialist Groups and has served on a number of other Groups.

Mr Mittermeier has attended every IUCN General Assembly/World Conservation Congress since 1981. He was a member of the Programme Committee at the 19th General Assembly in Buenos Aires, a plenary keynote speaker at the 5th World Parks Congress in Durban and a member of the Durban Accord Committee at the 5th World Parks Congress.

His first term as an IUCN Councillor began in 2004 and he has been on the IUCN Bureau since 2006. As part of his work on Council, he was a member of the Programme and Policy Committee and the Governance Task Force and also served as a member of the Search Committee to choose a new Director General.

His organization, Conservation International Foundation, is a major partner of IUCN.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

- Experience with IUCN going back to 1974
- Chairman of the SSC Primate Specialist Group since 1977
- Member of the Steering Committee of the Species Survival Commission since 1984
- Member of the IUCN Council since 2004
- Member of the IUCN Bureau since 2006
- Attended every General Assembly/World Conservation Congress since 1981
- Full-time conservationist since 1971
- Long experience with the processes of IUCN

THOMAS, Spencer Linus (Grenada)

Current employment and position/title:

Honorary Counsel for Belize in Grenada
Economic Policy Advisor – Ministry of Finance, Grenada

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Consultant on following:

- Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans – Grenada and St Kitts/Nevis
- National Environment Management Strategy and action plan
- National Capacity Self Assessment
- Poverty Eradication Strategy
- National reports to CBD, UNCCD, UNFCCC
- National Energy Policy – PhD focus was Energy Economics
- National Biosafety Framework
- Sustainable Land Management project
- Telecommunications and Information and Communication Technology
- Chairman Grenada sustainable development Council
- Senior Advisor to the Government of Grenada 1997 to present
- Director General of Finance Grenada 1995–1997

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

- Several years experience with the CBD process
- Several years experience with UNFCCC process
- Co chair Alliance of small island states of UNFCCC
- National focal point for CBD and protocol. Member Informal advisory body of clearing house mechanism
- CBD SBSTTA bureau member
- Chair working group meetings of CBD
- Steering committee member for 2010 biodiversity indicators project
- Member of technical expert group on island biodiversity
- Served on several committees in the Caribbean region
- Wide experience and extensive network in Caribbean
- Member of Global Island Partnership

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AS REGIONAL COUNCILLORS – SOUTH AND EAST ASIA

DEUBA, Arzu Rana (Nepal)

Current employment and position/title:

Executive Chairperson, SAMANATA – Institute for Social and Gender Equality

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Arzu Rana Deuba worked with IUCN during the implementation of the National Conservation Strategy from 1990 to 1993. She worked as Programme Coordinator of the Public Information Programme. Her main responsibility was focused on strengthening IUCN members working for awareness creation, namely the Nepal Forum for Environmental Journalists (NEFEJ), Environmental Camps for Conservation Awareness (ECCA) and Women in Environment. Public information programmes about conservation issues and environmental activism (against mines, pollution, unsustainable infrastructure projects) were successfully pioneered during this period in Nepal. The NGOs strengthened during that period are still at the forefront of environment conservation initiatives today.

She has also been active as follows:

- Served as Environment and Energy Advisor to Canadian Cooperation Office in Nepal 1993–1995. Was responsible for working with the Water and Energy Commission Secretariat of the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of Nepal.
- Attended summer school course on Environmental and Social Impact Assessment at the University of Ottawa, Canada in 1994.
- Served as advisor to WWF/Nepal programme (1998 to September 2006). Through SAMANATA, provided inputs to Terai Arc programme (2000/2001).
- Prepared Nepal's State of the Environment Report for the year 2000 and 2001 for the Ministry of Environment.
- Prepared Public Information Strategy for Ministry of Environment, 1999-2000 (ADB/MOPE/IUCN).
- Worked as Team Leader for the review, assessment and programme design of NARMSAP (Natural Resource Management Sector Programme, MOF/GON and DANIDA) for its national programme as well as SABIHA (JICA/Department of Soil Conservation and Watershed Management) (2003/2004).
- National Focal Point for the IUCN Communication and Education Committee, Nepal.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Served as Member representing Asia during the formation of the Global Partnership on Maternal, Newborn and Child Health and, prior to that, as a representative member from Asian NGOs in the Inter Agency Group on Safe Motherhood (2000–2005).

Established Nepal's Safe Motherhood Network Federation (SMNF). The SMNF has 500 member organizations in 60 districts (out of 75) of Nepal. The SMNF serves as an advocacy, awareness raising and social mobilization group at all levels in Nepal and abroad. The SMNF is regarded as the prototype for the Global White Ribbon Alliance. The SMNF was recognized for its outstanding contribution to maternal and neonatal health by the GWRA in 2002.

Served as a Board Member of South Asian Centre for Policy Research (1999–2001) and Regional Centre for Strategic Studies, Sri Lanka (2002–2004).

Ability to work in a number of areas with almost equal competency – especially interface between social and economic development and conservation issues.

Good advocacy and fundraising skills.

Invited to present, on behalf of women, in Congressional Hearings in the USA and other countries. Also spoke alongside Mme Madeleine Albright for the Planet Campaign for women's reproductive rights in

California. Honoured by Save the Children US for outstanding contribution to women's and child rights during UNGASS.

KOIKE, Hiroharu (Japan)

Current employment and position/title:

Special Advisor to the Rector of United Nations University
Professor, Faculty of Law, Teikyo University

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Mr Hiroharu Koike has 39 years experience in the fields of diplomacy and global environmental governance which is important in the fulfilment of IUCN's mission.

From 1999 to 2000, he served as Japan's Ambassador for Global Environmental Affairs. During this period, he was deeply involved in the UNCED process including COP V of UNFCCC. From 1990 to 1993, he served as Minister of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations. He was in charge of the Second Committee, UN bodies and specialized agencies accredited to ECOSOC. Between 2000 and 2002, Mr Koike was a Professor at the National Graduate Research Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) and taught global environmental negotiations, which included CITES and Biodiversity and other agreements related to the mission of IUCN.

Since 2005, Mr Koike serves as Special Advisor to the Rector of the United Nations University and since 2006, he has taught as Professor, Faculty of Law at Teikyo University.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Mr Koike is well acquainted with multilateral negotiations formulating agreements.

He represented Japan in various negotiations under the aegis of UNCTAD and Law of Sea.

From 1980 to 1983, Mr Koike was the Permanent Representative of Japan to ESCAP and Councillor of the Japanese Embassy in Thailand. From 1988 to 1990, Mr Koike was Minister of the Japanese Embassy in Malaysia.

While Mr Koike was Japan's Ambassador for Global Affairs between 1990 and 2000, he visited many countries in South and East Asia and held consultations and gave lectures.

SHRESTHA, Tej Kumar (Nepal)

Current employment and position/title:

Professor of Zoology, Tribhuvan University, Nepal

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Dr Shrestha has a PhD in Fisheries and a D.Sc in Wildlife Ecology and Behaviour. He is active in research and teaching programmes with Tribhuvan University in Kathmandu and the Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST).

He has published many books on wildlife ecology and biodiversity including "Wildlife of Nepal" and many research papers in national and international journals and made over 200 personal presentations at conferences.

He has been the Head of the Central Department of Zoology at Tribhuvan University and was a member of the University's Senate. He was recently awarded the E.P. Odum Gold Medal by the International Society for Ecological Communication.

He has been elected as a Fellow of the Linnean Society of London, Fellow of the Zoological Society of London and a Chartered Biologist with the Institute of Biology in the UK. All of these conservation oriented organizations are linked directly and indirectly with IUCN activities.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Dr Shrestha has wide experience in conservation and communication issues and understands IUCN's policies, programmes and activities very well. He is a Professor of Zoology and has teaching experience in Biodiversity and Wildlife Ecology.

Professor Shrestha has worked as a consultant and team leader in environmental assessment for major hydropower projects in Nepal. He has managed training activities of zoologist and professional environmentalists.

He is a member of IUCN's Species Survival Commission and has served on the Freshwater Fish, Amphibian and Reptile, Cetacean and Crocodile Specialist Groups.

He possesses a keen interest in all aspects of environmental education and training and is fluent in English and Nepali. He has good interpersonal skills and good contact with IUCN member organizations and has also given personal inputs to the Nepal Government and INGOs on biodiversity conservation programmes. If selected to serve IUCN as a Regional Councillor, Dr Shrestha will prove his worth.

TABUCANON, Monthip Sriratana (Thailand)

Current employment and position/title:

Director General, Department of Environmental Quality and Promotion, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Dr Monthip Sriratana Tabucanon is currently Director General of the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Thailand.

She previously held key positions at the Ministry as Deputy Permanent Secretary, Inspector General and Director General of the Pollution Control Department, among others. She was leader of several environmental cooperation and capacity building projects in Thailand, including the establishments of the Environmental Research and Training Centre, which was a Thailand-Japan bilateral project, and of the Asia-Europe Environmental Technology Centre, which was an Asia-Europe multilateral project.

Dr Tabucanon serves on the Boards of the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), the Institute of Global Environment Strategies (IGES), the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) and several international organizations including serving as Regional Councillor for South and east Asia of IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Dr Tabucanon was first elected as Regional Councillor for South and East Asia at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Bangkok, Thailand, held in November 2004.

During her current tenure, she assumed a leadership role in establishing the IUCN Task Force on Gender and Biodiversity, serving the Task Force as Chair. She is also very instrumental in the organization of the Task Force's activity in conjunction with the IUCN WCC taking place in Barcelona this year.

She has represented IUCN in various international gatherings including a presentation at the UN Commission on Sustainable Development held in New York in May 2006.

Dr Tabucanon possesses strong academic qualifications, with a doctorate in Urban Engineering from the University of Tokyo, a Master's Degree in Environmental Technology and Management from the Asian Institute of Technology, a Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry from the Mahidol University in Thailand. She has

also attended classes from prestigious universities in the US on environmental leadership (Yale University), on governance (Harvard University Kennedy School of Government) and on corporate leadership (Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management).

Dr Tabucanon has been active both nationally and internationally on issues concerning the environment and conservation of nature. In this connection, she has received various honorific awards from the US Environment Protection Agency, the Thai Government and Prince Songkhla University with an honorary doctorate. Finally, she has received a Royal decoration from the King of Sweden.

ULLAH, Mahfuz (Bangladesh)

Current employment and position/title:

Secretary General, Centre for Sustainable Development, Bangladesh
Chair, Bangladesh National Committee of IUCN

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Mr Mahfuz Ullah, current Chair of the Bangladesh National Committee of IUCN, has actively participated in all the regional and international fora of IUCN. During his participation, he has actively interacted with other members of the IUCN, raised the issue of small countries' interest in the area of environmental conservation, presented papers and made interventions and statements. He has actively contributed to the formation of the proposed Asia Regional Committee of IUCN as one of the members of the organizing committee.

Under his leadership, the Bangladesh National Committee of IUCN has received formal recognition by the IUCN Council in 2003.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Mr Ullah has to his credit a brilliant academic record and professional experiences, which fits him well as a Councillor of IUCN. He has worked for different organizations at national and international levels, which is an essential requirement for serving IUCN as a Regional Councillor. Given his association with the print and electronic media, he is a familiar name in Bangladesh and has access to policy planning levels.

If elected, he would be in a position to contribute more actively in furthering the mission of IUCN and elevating its image in the region. His election would contribute to selecting those developing and least developed countries that need support from the international community in their march forward.

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AS REGIONAL COUNCILLORS – WEST ASIA

AL-HAJARI, Saif Ali (Qatar)

Current employment and position/title:

Vice Chairperson, Qatar Foundation

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Dr Al-Hajari is a PhD holder in the field of Geology and the Founder and Chair of Friends of the Environment Centre. He is also the holder of a number of environmental awards and a member of several national, regional and international environmental organizations including, but not limited to IUCN, Birdlife International and the Arab Network for Environment and Development.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Dr Al-Hajari is the Chair and/or member of more than 40 organizations related to universities, schools, the handicapped, music, sports and environment. His diverse knowledge and experience has gained him the trust of Qatar leaders and the environmental players in the West Asia Region, making him a strong nominee for Regional Councillor of IUCN.

AL-MOHANNA, Abdul Aziz Mohammad (Saudi Arabia)**Current employment and position/title:**

Director General, Department of Research and Studies, National Commission for Wildlife Conservation and Development (NCWCD), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

- Director of Information Centre, NCWCD (1990–1998)
- General Director of Wildlife Research and Studies, NCWCD (1999–present)
- Member of a number of national committees on biodiversity and protected areas
- Member of a number of national environmental societies (NGOs)
- Guides and manages Saudi Arabian wildlife national and international exhibitions
- Supervises the production of conversation educational materials at the NCWCD (leaflets, brochures, posters, etc.)
- Clearing House Mechanism – Convention on Biological Diversity focal point in Saudi Arabia

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

He has been cooperating with a number of establishments in the region and has good contacts with many IUCN members in the region.

ASEM, Samira Omar (Kuwait)**Current employment and position/title:**

Senior Research Scientist, Division Director/Food Resources and Biological Sciences Division, Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR)

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

- Chairperson of the IUCN National Committee of Kuwait, 2008
- External Reviewer to IUCN as a representative of KISR key member of IUCN, 2007
- IUCN National Coordinator in the State of Kuwait since 2004
- Regional IUCN representative and Chairperson of Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research Delegate to the IUCN World Conservation Congress, Bangkok, Thailand, 17–25 November 2004
- Participated in the West Asia, Central Asia and North Africa (WESCANA) 5th Regional Conservation Forum, Amman, Jordan, April 5–7, 2004
- Consultant to IUCN in the International Technical Review Committee for Oil Production and Mining Protected Areas, Montréal, Canada, May 3–5, 2002
- Presented two papers at the Fourth Regional IUCN Conservation Forum for West/Central Asia and North Africa (WESCANA), held in Kuwait during the period 13–17 September 2002
- Member of the Species Survival Commission (SSC), IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) since 1999
- Observer at the IUCN World Conservation Congress, Montreal, Canada, 13–23 October 1996
- Regional IUCN representative at the “Riyadh Conservation Forum”, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 1–4 October 1995
- Member of the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) since 1994

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Dr Samira Omar Asem has been working for the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) since 1973. Currently, she is a Senior Research Scientist working as the Director of Food Resources and Biological Sciences Division. Dr Omar attained her PhD in Wild Land Resource Sciences from the University of California, Berkeley in 1990, MSc in Range Management from the University of California, Berkeley, and BSc in Botany and Chemistry from Kuwait University.

Dr Omar Asem has more than 30 years' experience in management and leadership in research and development (R&D) related to biodiversity conservation, agriculture and environment. She has research experience in monitoring and assessment of desert ecosystems, inventory of natural resources, desertification control, rehabilitation of degraded lands, wildlife conservation and management, revegetation of aridlands, protected areas, aerial livestock census, and sustainable land-use planning.

In her capacity as Director for the Food Resources and Biological Sciences Division at KISR she has been responsible for R&D of three programme elements/Departments namely: the Aridland Agriculture and Greenery, Aquaculture Fisheries and Marine Environment, and Biotechnology. The main activities in the division are related to the following areas of research: fisheries, aquaculture, oceanography, biotechnology, tissue culture, genetic engineering, soil remediation, food safety, food nutrition and production of livestock, poultry and crop plants, soil science, natural renewable resource management and environmental greenery.

Dr Omar has national, regional and international recognitions and has been affiliated to many local and international organizations. She has published 26 journal papers, 80 books, proceedings and 103 technical reports. Dr Omar has participated in 76 local, regional and international conferences, and provided consultations to local, regional and international organizations.

Dr Omar Asem has been an active member in IUCN and provided support to the IUCN Programme at the local and regional levels. She participated in the preparation of Chapters 6, 7 and 9 of the Fourth Global Environment Outlook Report (GEO-4) published by UNEP.

DARWISH, Ali H. (Lebanon)**Current employment and position/title:**

President of Green Line Association, Lebanon

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

- Current Chair of National Committee for Lebanon (2003–present)
- Regional Councillor for West Asia, IUCN (2004–2008)
- Vice Chair for West Asia Commission on Economic Environmental and Social Policy
- Active member within the West Asia membership of IUCN since 1998
- Participated in all regional IUCN fora and members' meetings since 1998
- Active in nature conservation and sustainable livelihoods in Lebanon
- Main promoter and implementer of ecological assessment of the war on Lebanon in 2006 and 2007 with technical support from CEESP
- Member of the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC)
- Expert in sustainable agriculture and agroecology
- Coordinator for IUCN Council for implementation of GMO Moratorium Resolution

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

- Advisor to several national, regional and international organizations in the fields of sustainable agriculture and community development
- Long term experience in the environmental and development problematic in West Asia
- NGO focal point for West Asia in the International NGO/CSO Planning Committee on Food Sovereignty
- NGO focal point in the Steering Committee of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research, GFAR

JABBAR, Javed (Pakistan)

Current employment and position/title:

Chairman and Chief Executive, J.J. Media (Pvt.) Ltd. and Project One (Pvt.) Ltd.

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

- Advocacy and mass communication: the candidate has written and directed the international award-winning documentary film: "Moen-jo-Daro: the city that must not die" in 1973 to increase awareness about the ecological dimensions of the Indus Valley civilization. He also wrote and directed Pakistan's official film titled "Habitat: Pakistan" for the UN Habitat Conference, Vancouver, 1975. Over the past 4 decades, the candidate continues to write for print media and present programmes on electronic media to promote environmental concerns.
- Education of youth and public orientation: in addition to regular lectures at universities, colleges and public forums, the candidate also wrote and presented on screen a series of 45-minute lectures on several aspects of global environmental conditions and Pakistan's National Environmental Policies for the distance-learning-based Virtual University of Pakistan on 2 TV channels, 2005–06.
- Formulation of public policy: as a member of the Senate of Pakistan (1985–91), candidate was the only Parliamentarian to serve as a member of the Steering Committee for the preparation between 1987 and 1991 of the National Conservation Strategy of Pakistan launched in 1992. As a member of civil society, the candidate contributes regularly to discourse on policy and programmes.
- As a member of Parliament and as Federal Minister in 3 Cabinets of Pakistan, the candidate actively supported public policy and programme formulation in environmental fields.
- Voluntary work at grass-roots level: as founder and co-founder of two development organizations that presently (in 2008) work with over 1600 communities throughout Pakistan and as co-founder of reputed think-tanks, the candidate possesses direct, hand-on experience of work on ecological issues at the grass-roots level and at the research and analytical levels.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

- Demonstrated commitment through practical action over a period of about 35 years in diverse fields towards promoting environmental values and practices
- Ability to organise people and resources towards advocacy for, and achievement of aims, programmes and projects related to the environment
- Experience as member of IUCN for over 20 years, as Chairman of the Pakistan National Committee of IUCN for 4 years helped expand IUCN membership and impact, promote IUCN's role
- As Regional Councillor (West Asia) and as Vice President of IUCN for 4 years, attended all Council meetings and participated actively in all sessions, served as member of the Programme Committee and the Membership Committee
- Attended all Regional Conservation Forums in West Asia and South/East Asia and facilitated regional issues
- Served as Chair of the Council Working Group on the clarified brand name and new logo
- Ability to articulate IUCN's vision, mission and policies at global, regional, national and local levels

SHAHBAZ, Mohammad (Jordan)

Current employment and position/title:

Jordan Badia Research and Development Centre (BRDC)

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

- MSc 1983, Industrial Waste Water Treatment, Queens University of Belfast
- 1983–1991, Head of Water Protection Division, Dep't of the Environment, Jordan
- 1992–1995, Assistant Director, Environment Sector, The Higher Council for Science and Technology
- 1995, Director, Jordan Badia Research and Development Programme (BRDP)
- 2003, Coordinator, Jordan National Committee, IUCN
- 2005, President, Jordan Badia Research and Development Centre (BRDC)
- 2007, Chairman, West Asia Regional Committee (WARC)

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Mr Shahbaz's experience in the field of IUCN will enable him to represent and serve IUCN very well as a Regional Councillor

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AS REGIONAL COUNCILLORS – OCEANIA

GIBSON, Lionel (Fiji)

Current employment and position/title:

Deputy Executive Director and Governance Programme Manager, Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific International

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

- Environmental conservation
- Sustainable Development
- Community Development
- Environmental Policy

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

- Experience in environmental conservation at national and regional level in Oceania, as an academic for 15 years at the University of the South Pacific and in national and regional NGOs
- Conducted sustainable development research on areas such as climate change, environmental education, and natural resource governance in the Pacific Islands
- Member and past Chair of the Regional Roundtable for Nature Conservation in the Pacific Islands

MACKEY, Brendan (Australia)

Current employment and position/title:

Director, ANU WildCountry Research and Policy Hub
The Australian National University (ANU)

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Expertise and experience in the fields of natural heritage, biodiversity conservation and the application of ethical principles to environmental policy and law. Professional experience in addressing problems associated with conservation and sustainable development in a wide range of settings.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Worked to promote an integrated view of the environment that cares for people and nature. Experience working with governments at all levels, international processes, the private sector, and across civil society – including environmental and social justice NGOs, along with faith traditions.

Brendan has worked on environmental and nature conservation issues in Australia, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Thailand, Canada, USA, Russia, South Africa and Uganda. Through his work with the IUCN and the Earth Charter initiative, he has extensive experience with international fora and cross-cultural dialogue.

Brendan is a member of CEL and WCPA. He currently co-chairs the Ethics Specialist Group within CEL. He is very familiar with the IUCN decision-making and policy-setting process.

SHAND, Diane Rosemary (New Zealand)

Current employment and position/title:

National Programme Manager of Communities for Climate Protection – New Zealand
Programme for ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability – Oceania

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Diana Shand is a strong advocate for conservation, climate change responses and sustainable development, working at a community level. She has worked in community organizations for many years particularly on environmental and planning and also human rights and sustainable development issues. She has a distinguished record as a champion of the environment and has worked with and for both government and nongovernmental agencies. She has served as a government appointed Human Rights Commissioner (1983–1987) and as an elected regional councillor in local government in New Zealand, dealing with environmental and resource management.

Since 2004, she has served one term on the IUCN Council as an elected Oceania Regional Councillor where she is active in promoting Oceania action on both mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, Antarctica and invasive species issues. She is serving as Deputy-Chair on the Policy and Programme Committee. She has attended all Council meetings and reports regularly and diligently to the New Zealand IUCN National Committee.

Diana has served 15 years in local government as a councillor on the Canterbury Regional Council, being that part of local government dealing with environmental planning and regulation for natural and physical resources. During this time Diana worked at length on biodiversity, water, land management, air, energy, coastal and transport issues. She chaired a number of committees and consent hearings, held the regional land transport portfolio for many terms, and became Deputy-Chair of the Council.

She was a member of the New Zealand Government delegation to UNCED in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, being one of two nominated by the NGO sector.

Since leaving local government in 2004, Diana has been employed as National Programme Manager of Communities for Climate Protection – New Zealand Programme for the ICLEI Oceania. (ICLEI International has collaborated with IUCN on a Local Action for Biodiversity Project).

Diana comes from a rural highcountry upbringing, has an MBA from McGill University and has worked as a business and marketing consultant. She has also been employed as a lecturer at Canterbury University and Christchurch Polytechnic as well as in the private sector. She has wide-ranging networks particularly in New Zealand and is dedicated to IUCN principles.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

As a current Regional Councillor, Diana Shand has shown herself to be diligent, organised, good at working with other members of Council and keeping in touch with members in Oceania and with Commission members. She has worked well in the team of Council and has been prepared to take on extra tasks.

She has extensive experience in a variety of positions nationally and has worked at an international level as well.

She understands the role of a governance board that sets policy, minds finances, raises the profile of issues and raises money.

Her experience in government, local government and non-government community level work, her current role of helping communities to respond to climate change and her good relations with both the NGO sector and the government sector make her ideal to the task facing her.

She has participated well in the Oceania Regional meetings and has good relations within it and with Commission members.

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AS REGIONAL COUNCILLORS – EAST EUROPE, NORTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

AMIRKHANOV, Amirkhan (Russia)

Current employment and position/title:

Acting Director, Department of the State Environmental Policy in the Ministry of Natural Resources of the Russian Federation

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Dr Amirkhan Amirkhanov started his nature conservation activities in 1978 as a Scientific Director in North-Ossetian State Nature Reserve. In 1992 he joined the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Russian Federation. From 1993 to 2000 he occupied the position of Deputy Minister and Deputy Chair of the Russian State Environmental Administration.

Since 2002, Dr Amirkhanov has been working as Deputy Director, Director and Acting Director of the Department of the State Environmental Policy in the Ministry of Natural Resources of the Russian Federation.

Dr Amirkhanov was the Director of the largest investment project in Russia, the “Biodiversity Conservation in the Russian Federation” (1996–2003). This project developed the first National Report, the National Strategy and the Action Plan for Biodiversity Conservation in the Russian Federation. The project has been one of the largest nature conservation projects in Europe financed by the GEF and the only project of that kind which was successfully completed in the Russian Federation under the control of a federal agency (the Ministry of Nature of Russia, the State Committee for Ecology of Russia, the Ministry of Natural Resources of Russia). The final documents of the project are being disseminated by the World Bank and have been recommended for international organizations to use as an example to follow when new projects for Russia are designed.

Currently Dr Amirkhanov is a National Director of the project “Biodiversity Conservation in the Russian Part of Altay-Sayan Ecoregion”.

The largest Russian fora, conferences and other activities designed to strengthen and unite the potential of State agencies, public and the private sector for biodiversity conservation have been organized with Dr Amirkhanov’s participation (All-Russia Congresses on Nature Conservation 1995, 1999, 2003, the national Forum on Biodiversity Conservation in 2001, etc.)

Dr Amirkhanov, being the National Coordinator, provided sufficient input into addressing the environmental challenges for the Caspian Sea preservation. He was a manager and an active proponent for drafting the international convention “On Conservation of Sea Environment of the Caspian Sea” endorsed in November 2003 and he actively participated in several international and Russian national projects on the Caspian Sea.

Dr Amirkhanov is one of the most respected and authoritative experts in nature conservation, all his life his work has been focused on the major issue of nature conservation.

Given his many years of fruitful labour, Dr Amirkhanov was granted a title of Honoured Environmentalist of the Russian Federation (by the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation in 2003). He is also honoured with the medal “850 Anniversary of Moscow”, honoured diplomas of IUCN – The World Conservation Union, Russian Ecological Union, All-Russia Society for Nature Conservation and other international and non-governmental organizations, as well as the ones of the State Committee for Ecology of Russia and the Ministry of Natural Resources of Russia.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Dr Amirkhanov is well known to the IUCN family and familiar with IUCN’s activities. In 1993, when he was a Deputy Minister, he took part in negotiations with IUCN to increase IUCN activities in the region and the opening of an office in Russia. From 1994–2000 he was twice elected as IUCN Regional Councillor during which time he contributed greatly to promoting IUCN’s mission in the region and supporting the work of IUCN members and Commissions.

In 1998 Dr Amirkhanov took an active role in establishing the Russian National Committee for IUCN and since its establishment has been the Committee’s Chair.

Dr Amirkhanov has extensive international experiences on the nature conservation policy and management scene. Since 1994, Dr Amirkhanov has taken an active part and provided contributions to nearly all major IUCN fora, including WCCs and regional IUCN members meetings.

Dr Amirkhanov is a well-known and highly respected person in both international policy and nature conservation management circles. He has a long record of engagement with the work of different international organizations (IUCN, European Commission, European Council, Arctic Council, UNDP, UNESCO, World Bank, etc). He also is actively involved in bilateral nature conservation activities with a number of states and the European Commission.

Dr Amirkhanov has experience in national and international environmental policy development and implementation and meets all criteria to be a candidate for election of IUCN Regional Councillor. If elected, Dr Amirkhanov will be in a position to provide valuable contribution to IUCN and its members.

KISZEL, Vilmos (Hungary)

Current employment and position/title:

President of the Board of Trustees, CEO of the Göncöl Foundation

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Studies: As a graduated astronomer, he researched changes of planetary atmospheres and this became important with respect to climate changes on the Earth. He later studied biology and geo-sciences and worked in a research team with Prof. T. Gánti on Chemoton Theory on origin of life on the earth.

Social sciences: Worked for seven years in the Hungarian Institute of Culture, learned and experienced sociology, adult education, negotiation, conflict resolving, minority and equity problems.

Research team leader: practiced for two decades. Main programmes were on nature field inventories, database and evaluations, including five-parameter classification of natural habitats, ecological networks and sustainable land-use planning in the broad surroundings of the Danube Bend.

Spatial planning: with stakeholder participation and plans for environmental conflict management, applying adult education tools on international water bodies, aquifers, trans-boundary areas.

Involvement in codification: Worked on Law 1989 I. of Associations, chaired National Committee of Law 1995. LIII. of Environment. Meantime, he learned law and was involved in legal cases.

Administrative leader: Involved in NGOs since 1970 and as administrative leader in NGOs since 1987. Presently, he is the CEO of the Göncöl Foundation and Chair of the Hungarian National Committee of the

IUCN. Furthermore, he has experience in state administration (Secretary of Sciences at the National Institute of Culture).

Public engagements: Member and/or officer within several social organizations, member or chair of different boards, and organises conferences and workshops. Has worked voluntarily for decades with the National Council of Environment, IUCN/HNC and CEL, EEAC, ESDN, UNEP/Biodiversity MEAs.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

International experience: foreign studies (1977 France, 1996 USA), international projects (River Watch Network, Practical Guide to Partnership, Danube programmes, ecological networks), membership (IUCN/CEL, EEAC, ESDN, Ipoly Euroregion), conferences and workshops (participant, presentations, chairing), foreign language works (5 reports, 7 publications, 1 book).

IUCN policy: Impact on IUCN policies: motion to put natural resources into mission statement at the 1994 Buenos Aires General Assembly, initiating governance taskforce in 1995 Bristol, recalled in 2000 Amman WCC, motion to change reporting status of the DG 1996 Montreal WCC, highlighting internal communication issue in 2004 at Bangkok WCC, standing proposal on Structural Reform of IUCN 2006 Den Hague.

Governance experience: Has served on the boards of different national and international NGOs since 1974. He was Chair of the National Council on Environment of Hungary from 2004–2006.

Conservation, equity and justice: He has been working for conservation since 1978. Main achievements of Göncöl are in the fields of environment, culture, legislations and trans-frontier issues.

Global view of the IUCN: He knows many IUCN members in person and “in situ”, has broad knowledge of IUCN as organization, its bylaws and policies which he shares and supports in practice.

Sustainable Development: He has produced several publications, policy papers and facilitated debates on Sustainable Development as Chair of the National Environment Council and member of EEAC and ESDN.

Language skills: He has broad work experience in English which he has been using for the past two decades. He also works in French and has knowledge of Slovak.

Personal services: He is willing to serve and commit time to IUCN and not serve as representative of any other organization, thereby avoiding any conflict of interest.

Institutional support: His employer, the Göncöl Foundation will provide his time, the necessary office space and services to operate should he be elected as IUCN Regional Councillor.

MILOSEVIC, Jasminka (Serbia)

Current employment and position/title:

Director of Environmental Department in the consulting, engineering and design company FIDECO doo, Belgrade, Serbia (Member of Tahal Group – member of Kardan Group).

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Ms Jasminka Milosevic has more than 15 years extensive experience in evaluation and designation of protected areas (PAs), development of national PA systems, planning in PAs, sustainable management of PAs, development of transborder cooperation and facilitation in establishing transboundary PAs, and financing of PAs.

She has over 20 years experience in sustainable use of natural resources, species and ecosystem diversity with the focus on medicinal plants and wetlands. Furthermore, she has long experience (over 20 years) in environmental education and communication in different media to various target groups.

During the past 13 years, she has been involved with the development of biosphere reserves, development of local, regional and national environmental (nature conservation, biodiversity included) policies, EU and local environmental legislation, Man and the Biosphere and World Heritage programmes, conventions related to environmental issues, nature conservation and generally environmental issues in the region, networking and close cooperation with NGOs and state administration.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Ms Milosevic has proved herself over the last 10 years actively participating as a WCPA member and closely cooperating with CEC.

She introduced IUCN categories into national classification during the process of PAs designation. She was also part of the initiative to launch the SEE IUCN office. Her achievements are visible in establishing the first Biosphere Reserve (BR) in Serbia, building and planning the network of BRs at the national and regional level. She was a part of the regional MAB initiative on transboundary BRs.

Ms Milosevic organized and participated in number of trainings for PAs officials, managers, decision makers, journalists, and an international camp for young specialists. She personally translated a number of IUCN documents into local languages. She encourages exchange of specific experiences and active participation in numerous WCPA, CEC and IUCN conferences, workshops, working groups and transferring to the local and national level.

She has experience in fundraising.

Ms Milosevic has good knowledge of IUCN operations and close cooperation with the SEE IUCN office, excellent interpersonal skills and she has proved to be a very dedicated and hard working, highly experienced team worker and team leader. She is well established in the community and has good relations with NGOs and state administration in the region.

She is permanently advocating for membership in Commissions and IUCN, developing a wide network of conservationists and policy makers in the region.

Ms Milosevic is successfully promoting nature conservation and cooperation with other international organizations, taking an active role in the work of EUROPARC Federation, WWF International Danube Programme, Regional Environmental Centre, EURONATUR, etc.

She is fluent in English and several regional languages.

SEPP, Kalev (Estonia)

Current employment and position/title:

Professor of Landscape Management and Nature Conservation at the Estonian University of Life Sciences

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Prof. Kalev Sepp's research and publications focus on evaluating the human impact on agricultural landscapes, landscape functions, methodological approaches for landscape and biodiversity monitoring, applying the concept of ecological networks in spatial planning and using a concept landscape functions in environmental management.

Prof. Sepp has published more than 80 scientific articles and has worked and studied in several international institutions including the Central European University (CEU), University College London (UCL), the International Institute for Applied System Analyses (IIASA) and the University of Brighton.

He has participated in European scientific programmes of FP V, FP VI and VP VII such as AEMBAC, IDARI, MANTRA-EAST, SENSOR, ALTERNET and Ebone.

He is an expert in the EC Programme Committee “Global Change and Environment” and was until recently, active as an expert of the Landscape Convention and is a member of the Committee of Experts for the European Ecological Network at the Council of Europe.

He was a member of the Scientific Council of the European Centre of Nature Conservation (IUCN member).

He has provided expert advice to the Estonian Ministry of Agriculture with regard to the development of the Rural Development Programme (landscape issues) and to the Estonian Ministry of Environment on several environmental issues (Estonian Environmental Strategy, Environmental Action Plan).

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Kalev Sepp has extensive international experience in the nature conservation policy and management scene.

He is a Regional Councillor of IUCN - The World Conservation Union for the period of 2004–2008 and serves as Vice-Chair of the Scientific Commission on Ecosystem Management (IUCN CEM).

He served and continues to provide assistance, as a Senior Scientific Adviser and expert for IUCN, in the framework of IUCN’s GreenBelt Programme and in the IUCN ‘Countdown 2010’ Working Group. He has published two books under a series of IUCN publications.

He is a well-known and highly respected person in both scientific and nature conservation management/policy circles. He has a long record of engagement with the work of different international organizations (IUCN, European Commission, European Council, IIASA, ECNC, CEU) and has co-ordinated several projects of these organizations.

He has been active at the forefront of political development with regard to priority areas of IUCN (education, membership policy, ecosystem management, ecological networks, nature conservation management, etc).

He has the desired balanced experience of the interface between nature conservation research and practical implementation. If elected as Regional Councillor of IUCN, Prof. Sepp’s work will prove to be of value for the future development of IUCN.

VOLOŠČUK, Ivan (Slovakia)

Current employment and position/title:

- University Professor of Forest Ecology for PhD degree at Technical University Zvolen
- President of Association of Carpathian National Parks – ACANAP
- Chairman of the Slovak Association of National Parks and Protected Areas
- Chair of the Slovak National Committee for IUCN

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

As a former IUCN Councillor (2000-2004), Prof. Vološčuk has long and extensive experience in evaluation, monitoring, research, management and development of national and international protected areas. As a President of the Association of Carpathian National Parks (1992- till present), he has long experience in international cooperation and coordination of the IUCN strategy and concept implementation.

Prof. Vološčuk represented IUCN at several international conferences and symposia. As a Chair of the Slovak National Committee for IUCN, he attended conferences in Europe, Asia, Africa and America. Prof. Vološčuk is well known in the IUCN family.

Prof. Vološčuk is a Slovak national expert for the UNESCO World Heritage Convention. His proposal for nomination of the Carpathian Primeval Beech forests in Slovakia and Ukraine was successfully finished in July 2007, when the UNESCO World Heritage Commission in New Zealand listed the Carpathian Primeval Beech Forests on the World Heritage List.

Prof. Vološčuk, as a University Professor and former Dean (1999–2003) of the Faculty of Ecology and Environmental Sciences of the Technical University in Zvolen, has long experience in environmental and ecological education. During the last 16 years, he has successfully coordinated sustainable development in the Tatra Biosphere Reserve.

He is a Vice-Chair of the Slovak National Committee for UNESCO Programme, Man and the Biosphere (MAB).

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

International experience:

In 1992 Prof. Vološčuk established the international organization - The Association of Carpathian National Parks and Biosphere Reserves. He is editor of the international journal CARPARHI (in English) and author of several books, articles and contributions presented at the international nature conservation conferences.

Prof. Vološčuk organised international research expeditions to Ukraine and has attended workshops in USA, France, Germany, Italy, Hungary, Poland, Russia, Australia, Thailand etc.

Prof. Vološčuk attended and actively participated in discussions at the World Parks Congresses in Caracas 1992 and Durban 2002. He attended the IUCN World Congresses in Buenos Aires (1994), Montreal (1996), Amman (2000) and Bangkok (2004).

Governance experience:

Prof. Vološčuk was Director of the Tatra National Park (1990–1995), General Director of the Slovak National Parks (1996–1998), Dean of the Faculty of the Technical University (1999–2003). He has been on the board of different national and international organizations.

Conservation, equity and justice:

Prof. Vološčuk has been working for nature conservation since 1973. The main achievements of the Association of the Carpathian National Parks are in the fields of management, research, monitoring and sustainable development as well as in environmental education, culture and legislations.

Global view of the IUCN:

As a Chair of the Slovak National Committee for IUCN and former IUCN Councillor, Prof. Vološčuk is familiar with the IUCN family worldwide and has broad knowledge of IUCN. He is member of both WCPA and CEM.

As a University Professor, Prof. Vološčuk has prepared several ecological and environmental publications and policy papers. He is successfully promoting international cooperation with EUROPARC Federation, WWF and in 1992 he was awarded the WWF Gold Medal for international nature conservation in the former political system. He is also involved in the International Danube-Carpathian Programme, Regional Environmental Centre, EUROSITE, etc.

Prof. Vološčuk has language skills in English, French, Russian, Ukrainian, Hungarian and Polish.

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AS REGIONAL COUNCILLORS – WEST EUROPE

DE IONGH, Hans (Netherlands)

Current employment and position/title:

Head, International Co-operation, Institute of Environmental Sciences, University of Leiden

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Hans de longh has been a member of the Board of the Netherlands Committee for IUCN since 1987 and has been a Chair of the Committee between 1990 and 2000 and a Vice Chair from 2000 until 2003.

Since 2003, he has been a member of the Supervisory Board of IUCN NL and Biodiversity Advisor to the daily board.

Mr de longh is a member of the IUCN Species Survival Commission, especially the Sustainable Use Specialist Group, the Sirenia Specialist Group and the Cat Specialist Group. He is also a member of the African Lion Working Group, which is affiliated with the Cat Specialist Group, and he has contributed to the Ecosystem Management Group for several years.

He is a member of the Netherlands CITES Commission, Chair of the Van Tienhoven Foundation and member of an Advisory Group to the Ministry of LNV on Red Lists in the Netherlands.

He has been active in the development of harmonization of Red Lists in Europe and he has contributed to and initiated several National Conservation Strategies for threatened species.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Hans de longh has long standing experience with IUCN and the IUCN network, through his Chairmanship of the National Committee between 1990 and 2000 and as Vice Chair from 2000 until 2003. During this period the National Committee was successful in raising funds from the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs for a small grant window on tropical forests, which has formed the basis for a very strong development of the Office of the National Committee to its present form and size.

During his Chairmanship, Mr de longh has represented the National Committee during General Assemblies and World Conservation Congresses, has chaired meetings of the National Committee, has contributed to European meetings of National Committees and has organised and initiated several international and regional seminars and conferences, a Conference on International Environmental Security in the Peace Palace of the Hague, a European seminar on the harmonization of Red Lists and several workshops on Conservation Strategies for elephant, lion wild African dog and dugongs.

Hans de longh remains a very active member of the IUCN and participates in activities of the Species Survival Commission.

LEFEBVRE, Christophe (France)

Current employment and position/title:

- Delegate of the North Sea-Channel Coastline Conservatory
- Responsible for international relations with IUCN

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Christophe Lefebvre has 25 years' experience in the conservation of the French coastline.

He has been involved in European and international affairs of the Coastline Conservatory since 1985. He is one of the founders of the EUROSITE Network and he was the Secretary of the network for ten years. He was President of the French Committee for IUCN from 1998 to 2005; he was a member of CEESP from the Montreal Congress until the Amman Congress.

He is currently President of the *Conseil National de protection de la nature* (National Council for the Protection of Nature) in France. He is also one of the founders of the recently created (2006) National Agency for Marine Protected Areas.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Christophe Lefebvre has visited more than 80 countries, both in his capacity as an expert on coastal areas, and as a member of delegations to Conferences of Parties to conventions (Ramsar and Biodiversity).

In 1998, he participated in a Ramsar Convention initiative, through the implementation of the “act of the mountain to the sea for the protection of the resource and the quality of water” (sic.), supported by the Evian-based Danone Group.

He is a university professor and works in the field; he also participates in several European and international policy, scientific and technical working group networks.

Thanks to his varied experience he is in a position to make a very valuable contribution to the IUCN Council.

VON WEISSENBERG, Marina (Finland)

Current employment and position/title:

Senior Adviser, Ministry of the Environment of Finland

Experience in fields of concern to IUCN:

Marina Von Weissenberg has been Chair of the Finnish National IUCN Committee since 2002 and before that the Secretary of the National IUCN Working Group (1996–2001).

She has experience in the work of IUCN in Finland where the aim is to act as liaison group between IUCN members and the Secretariat, enhance cooperation and inform Finnish public on IUCN, prepare Finnish participation in the IUCN Congresses, and exchange national views and support participation in IUCN Commissions (especially WCPA, SSC, CEC, CEL).

She has experience of implementing policies with regard to conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity through being the Secretary of the National Commission for Biological Diversity in Finland since 1996. The Commission for Biological Diversity drafted the National Strategy and Action Plan for Biological Diversity in Finland (1997–2005). The New NBSAP 2006–2016 for Finland was approved by the Council of State in December 2006.

The work of IUCN in Finland: To act as a group of specialists and liaise between the Finnish members (government and non-governmental organizations), exchange views between the Nordic IUCN members and European members, prepare inputs and views, convey national initiatives (website), and give inputs and comments to IUCN, and to organise seminars and workshops, by inviting IUCN specialists in the IUCN field of work to Finland.

Key achievements: Conducted negotiations between Ministry of Foreign Affairs and IUCN on partnership, co-hosted several WCPA meetings in Finland, co-financing of MPA seminars in Finland, National Committee website with topical issues raised, cooperation initiated between Nordic NCs, Countdown 2010 Initiative for Finland in 2006. To this end, the new National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2006–2016 is being implemented and a Countdown 2010 National Biodiversity Action Award was launched in 2006.

Numerous forms of action have also been promoted including the preparation of a communication strategy. These aim to involve institutions, local communities, media and public/private stakeholders to contribute towards safeguarding biodiversity.

In this regard, the experience of being the National Focal Point for both the CBD and the SBSTTA are valuable experiences for the task and this has required networking and cooperation skills.

Particular qualifications to be a Regional Councillor:

Ms Von Weissenberg has extensive experience in international nature conservation issues on global, regional and national levels. She has, through her work, demonstrated excellent communication skills and dedication to the mission of IUCN and its programmes, e.g. Countdown 2010.

Ms Von Weissenberg is widely recognised for building trustful co-operation between governments, NGOs and international institutions. She is experienced in organizational and strategic planning for a large institution.

Her strong commitment to the work of IUCN and focus on active involvement of its members in both policy formulation and programme implementation guarantees a highly dedicated Regional Councillor, able to listen and represent the views of IUCN members across Western Europe.

State Members of the United Nations, members of its Specialized Agencies, or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, or parties to the Statutes of the International Court of Justice

List of States by Region, as per Articles 16 and 17 of the Statutes and Regulation 36 of the Regulations:

AFRICA

Algeria
Angola
Benin
Botswana
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cameroon
Cape Verde
Central African Republic
Chad
Comoros
Congo
Côte d'Ivoire
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Djibouti
Egypt
Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea
Ethiopia
Gabon
Gambia
Ghana
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Kenya
Lesotho
Liberia
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Madagascar
Malawi
Mali
Mauritania
Mauritius
Morocco
Mozambique
Namibia
Niger
Nigeria
Rwanda
Sao Tome and Principe
Senegal
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Somalia
South Africa
Sudan
Swaziland
Togo
Tunisia
Uganda
United Republic of Tanzania
Zambia
Zimbabwe

MESO AND SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina
Belize
Bolivia
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Ecuador
El Salvador
Guatemala
Guyana
Honduras
Mexico
Nicaragua
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Suriname
Uruguay
Venezuela

NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARRIBBEAN

Antigua and Barbuda
Bahamas
Barbados
Canada
Cuba
Dominica
Dominican Republic
Grenada
Haiti
Jamaica
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Trinidad and Tobago
United States of America

SOUTH AND EAST ASIA

Bangladesh
Bhutan
Brunei Darussalam
Cambodia
China
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
India
Indonesia
Japan
Lao People's Democratic

Republic
Malaysia
Maldives
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nepal
Philippines
Republic of Korea
Singapore
Sri Lanka
Thailand
Timor-Leste
Viet Nam

WEST ASIA

Afghanistan
Bahrain
Iran, Islamic Republic of
Iraq
Jordan
Kuwait
Lebanon
Oman
Pakistan
Qatar
Saudi Arabia
Syrian Arab Republic
United Arab Emirates
Yemen

OCEANIA

Australia
Cook Islands
Fiji
Kiribati
Marshall Islands
Micronesia, Federated States of
Nauru
New Zealand
Niue
Palau
Papua New Guinea
Samoa
Solomon Islands
Tonga
Tuvalu
Vanuatu

EAST EUROPE, NORTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

Albania
Armenia
Azerbaijan
Belarus
Bosnia and

Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Czech Republic
Estonia
Georgia
Hungary
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Latvia
Lithuania
Montenegro
Poland
Republic of Moldova
Romania
Russian Federation
Serbia
Slovakia
Slovenia
Tajikistan
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Turkmenistan
Ukraine
Uzbekistan

WEST EUROPE

Andorra
Austria
Belgium
Cyprus
Denmark
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Holy See
Iceland
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Liechtenstein
Luxembourg
Malta
Monaco
Netherlands
Norway
Portugal
San Marino
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

