

IUCN Statutes:

Part VII - The National and Regional Committees and Regional Fora

66. Members of IUCN within a State, a Region or a part of a Region may organize committees restricted to Members of IUCN or their representatives to facilitate cooperation among Members, coordination of the components of IUCN, and participation of Members in the programme and governance of IUCN. A proposal to create such National or Regional Committees shall be made in accordance with the Regulations.
67. The Council
 - (a) shall recognize only one National Committee for a State, and one Regional Committee for a particular Region or a part of the Region; and
 - (b) may recognize Interregional Committees for defined purposes and on such terms as it considers appropriate.
68. Between sessions of the World Congress, a Regional Forum of Members may be held for each Region, or part of a Region, *inter alia*, to enable Members to participate in the preparation and evaluation of the programme and strategies of IUCN and to prepare for the next session of the World Congress. Either the Members, or the Council, may convene a Forum. All Members of IUCN in the Region have the right to be invited to and participate in a Forum. A Forum may determine its own organization. The Rules of Procedure of the World Congress shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to such Regional Fora.
69. A National or Regional Committee shall not undertake substantial financial obligations until it has established its own legal personality or procedures in a form acceptable by the Council.
70. Every IUCN Member has the right to join the respective National Committee of its State and participate in the election of only one Regional Committee. If an IUCN Member belongs to a State with territory located in more than one IUCN Region, it may participate in the Regional Committee in the IUCN Region to which the State belongs or to the Region, or part of the Region, in which the Member is geographically located.
71. National and Regional Committees:
 - (a) may have their own separate legal personality distinct from that of IUCN in a form acceptable to the Council;

- (b) shall be self-governing and shall not impose financial obligations or liabilities upon IUCN, which shall not be responsible for commitments entered into by a Committee unless these have prior authorization of the Council; and
- (c) shall work in partnership with the Secretariat and the Commissions and any in-country National or Regional Committees to formulate, coordinate and implement the Programme of IUCN.

72. Regional Councillors and other members of the Council resident in a State or Region where such Committees and Regional Fora have been established, shall be invited to participate in the meetings and activities of the corresponding National and Regional Committees and Regional Fora. Members of the Commissions resident in such State or Region, may be invited to participate in meetings and activities of the National and Regional Committees and Regional Fora.

IUCN Regulations
Part VI - The National and Regional Committees
and Regional Fora

61. To be eligible for recognition by the Council, National Committees shall:
 - (a) open their membership to all IUCN Members in their State; and
 - (b) comprise the majority of Members in their State.
62. To be eligible for recognition a Regional Committee shall be constituted through a process in which all IUCN Members in the Region or part of the Region are entitled to participate on equal terms.
63. The Director General shall be informed of any proposal to establish a Committee and of its proposed chair, rules of procedure and address, and shall:
 - (a) advise the Committee on the conformity of these proposals with these Regulations; and
 - (b) once satisfied of that conformity, inform the Council at its next meeting of the establishment of the Committee so that the Council may consider recognition.
64. Should a Committee act inconsistently with the objectives of IUCN, and should all reasonable efforts fail to resolve such problems, the Director General may recommend that the Council withdraw recognition from that Committee. Before taking a decision, the Council shall give the Committee due notice and an opportunity to respond to the allegations made.
65. Each Committee recognized by the Council may use the IUCN name and logo in conjunction with the respective name of its State, Region or part of a Region as prescribed by the Council.
66. Committees recognized by the Council shall:
 - (a) elect their own Chairs and establish their own procedures;
 - (b) be solely responsible for any funds they raise and any debts and legal obligations incurred;
 - (c) determine the dates and venues of their meetings, informing their members and the Director General of these meetings in advance;

- (d) send a report on their activities to the Director General and the Council once a year;
- (e) accept the right of any member to dissociate from any decision of the Committee and if requested, clearly indicate that dissociation;
- (f) endeavour to ensure the full participation of their members; and
- (g) cooperate with the Secretariat and the Commissions to advance the work of IUCN;
- (h) invite the Director General to attend or be represented at their meetings.

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

67. Committees recognized by the Council may:

- (a) adopt and pursue their own policies consistent with the policies and objectives of IUCN;
- (b) be authorized by the Council to undertake activities in the name of IUCN;
- (c) establish and operate through sub-national or sub-regional committees;
- (d) invite participation of IUCN Members from other States or Regions, as appropriate;
- (e) invite others to participate as observers;
- (f) have or adopt their own constitution and by-laws;
- (g) exchange views on conservation issues within their States or Regions;
- (h) participate in the formulation of the IUCN Programme for their respective State or Region; and
- (i) issue statements relevant to the objectives of IUCN, provided that such statements, or actions taken pursuant to them, shall be solely on behalf of the Committee and shall not commit IUCN to any financial, legal or policy obligations.

68. The Director General shall nominate a Secretariat official responsible for liaison with each Committee and shall:
- (a) keep the Committee informed of IUCN activities;
 - (b) consult the Committee on applications for IUCN membership, on mechanisms for participation in the IUCN Programme and on the implementation of the decisions of the World Congress relevant to that State or Region;
 - (c) involve the Committee in preparations for sessions of the World Congress, regional meetings and other important events;
 - (d) consult with the Committee about the development of IUCN initiatives in its State or Region;
 - (e) inform the Committee when IUCN has been consulted on issues of importance to the State or Region; and
 - (f) inform the Committee as appropriate of forthcoming official visits by officers and senior staff of IUCN.