

For immediate release

## World leaders share success stories in Barcelona

**Background:** Global leaders from different parts of the world will be joining the **World Sustainability Leaders VIP Dialogue** hosted on board the Yacht of HRH Prince Turki Bin Nasser Bin Abdelaziz, President of Presidency of Meteorology and Environment in Saudi Arabia on October 7, 2008, in Barcelona. This yacht will carry selected global leaders who will share their success stories and best practices in their countries and organizations. This event is held during the IUCN World Conservation Congress taking place between 5-14 October, 2008 in Barcelona.

**Key Issues:**

*"This event is intended to convey some hope and optimism and communicate to media and to future generations that the future is bright but we have to make some changes in our world views and our daily consumption patterns,"* says **Odeh Al Jayyousi, Regional Director, IUCN West Asia/Middle East Regional Office**. *"This will be documented as a commitment for change and lessons to be shared with the world."*

**Where:** October 7, 2008, 11:30 – 14:30, on board HRH Prince Turki Bin Nasser Bin Abdelaziz yacht "Sarah".

**Who are the VIPs?**

- **H.R.H Prince Turki Bin Nasser bin Abdulaziz**, President, Presidency of Meteorology & Environment, Saudi Arabia
- **Salifou Sawadogo**, Minister of Environment, Burkina Faso
- **Narmin Othman Hassen**, Minister of Environment, Iraq
- **Abdulrahman Al Eryani**, Minister of Water and Environment, Yemen
- **Ted Turner**, Chairman, United Nations Foundation
- **Maria Fernanda Espinosa**, UN Representative and Ecuador Consulate, New York
- **Achim Steiner**, Under-Secretary-General & Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme
- **Monique Barbut**, Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson, Global Environment Facility
- **Ahmed Djoghlaif**, Executive Secretary, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
- **Luc Hoffmann**, President, MAVA Foundation
- **Jonathan Rose**, Chairman, The Garrison Institute
- **Valli Moosa**, President, IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)

**Spokespersons:**

- **HRH Prince Turki Bin Nasser Bin Abdelaziz**, President, Presidency of Meteorology and Environment, Saudi Arabia
- **Mr Valli Moosa**, IUCN President
- **Dr Odeh Al Jayyousi**, IUCN West Asia, Middle East Regional Director

**Materials for the Media:** IUCN West Asia/Middle East Regional Office [www.iucn.org/wame](http://www.iucn.org/wame)  
Presidency of Meteorology & Environment [www.pme.gov.sa](http://www.pme.gov.sa)

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**About IUCN West Asia/Middle East (WAME) Regional Office**

IUCN West Asia/Middle East (WAME) Regional Office was established in October 2004 to launch a new and challenging phase of IUCN work in the region. The establishment of the WAME regional office is considered a turning point in the environmental movement in the region, through linking the environmental work with the development aspects; economical, social and environmental. The new West Asia/ Middle East region covers 13 countries which include: Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Iraq and Iran. IUCN WAME works through four thematic programmes including: the Regional Water Resources & Drylands Programme (REWARD); Protected Areas Programme; Poverty, Equity & Gender Programme, and Marine Programme. [www.iucn.org/wame](http://www.iucn.org/wame)

