IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations Relevant to Indigenous Peoples from the 4th World Conservation Congress

The Members’ Assembly of the 4th WCC adopted the following resolutions and recommendations important to indigenous peoples and local communities:

- Resolution 4.033: Arctic legal regime for conservation
- Resolution 4.036 Best practice protected area guideline for ecological restoration
- Resolution 4.038: Recognition and conservation of sacred natural sites in protected areas
- Resolution 4.041: Following up on actions called for by the 2nd Latin American Congress on Protected Areas and Other Protected Areas (Bariloche, 2007)
- Resolution 4.047: Empowering local communities to conserve and manage natural resources in Africa
- Resolution 4.048: Indigenous peoples, protected areas and implementation of the Durban Accord
- Resolution 4.049: Supporting indigenous conservation territories and other indigenous peoples’ and community conservation areas
- Resolution 4.050: Recognition of indigenous conservation territories
- Resolution 4.051: Indigenous rights and protected areas of la Mosquitia in Mesoamerica
- Resolution 4.052: Implementing the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Resolution 4.053: Mobile Indigenous Peoples and Biodiversity Conservation
- Resolution 4.055: Integrating culture and cultural diversity into IUCN’s policy and Programme
- Resolution 4.056: Rights-based approaches to conservation
- Resolution 4.068: Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD)
- Resolution 4.099: Recognition of the diversity of concepts and values of nature
- Recommendation 4.127: Indigenous peoples’ rights in the management of protected areas fully or partially in the territories of Indigenous Peoples
- Recommendation 4.136: Biodiversity, protected areas, indigenous peoples and mining activities

The full text of these resolutions and recommendations follows. All WCC resolutions and recommendations can be found at:

http://www.iucn.org/congress_08/assembly/policy/
4.033 Arctic legal regime for conservation

RECALLING Resolution 1.7 An IUCN Strategy for the Arctic and Recommendation 1.106 Protection of the Arctic Ocean adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), Resolution 2.22 IUCN’s work in the Arctic adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), and Resolution 3.037 Arctic legal regime for environmental protection adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 86 Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind adopted by the 62nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA);

ALSO RECALLING Decision 5 Sustainable Development of the Arctic of the 10th Special Session of the United Nations Environment Programme’s (UNEP) Governing Council;

NOTING the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s (IPCC) Fourth Assessment Report concluded that average Arctic temperatures have increased at almost twice the global average rate in the past 100 years;

ALSO NOTING that annual average Arctic sea ice extent has shrunk by 2.7% (2.1 to 3.3%) per decade, with larger decreases in summer of 7.4% (5.0 to 9.8%) per decade;

FURTHER NOTING that the northern sea route is expanding and resource development will likely accelerate;

TAKING NOTE that the maximum extent of seasonally frozen ground has decreased by about 7% in the Northern Hemisphere since 1900, with decreases in spring of up to 15% and that temperatures at the top of the permafrost layer in the Arctic have generally increased since the 1980s by up to 3°C;

AWARE of the ongoing activities of the International Polar Year, 2007/2008;

ALSO AWARE of the possible need for new international arrangements or enhancements to existing arrangements;

RECOGNIZING that the Arctic Ocean Conference (Ilulissat, 2008) reconfirmed its commitment to the legal framework and to the orderly settlement of any possible overlapping claims;

CONCERNED that because of the cumulative effects of climate disruption on Arctic biodiversity, including sea-ice biomes, migratory birds, mammals and higher predators will be seriously impacted;

ACUTELY AWARE that the Arctic is a barometer for global climate disruption;

CONCERNED that the climate disruption is presently and significantly affecting the lives of Arctic indigenous peoples;

NOTING that Arctic indigenous peoples are recognized as among the key players in Arctic conservation; and

ACKNOWLEDGING the Statement of the 7th Conference of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region (Kiruna, 2006);

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON relevant IUCN State members to utilize the Annual UN Treaty Event initiated by the Secretary General to deposit the legal instruments for those international agreements with an impact on the Arctic, which have not yet been deposited;

2. CALLS ON relevant IUCN members to consider:
   (a) supporting activities to fulfil the overall recommendation of the joint UNEP, Nordic Council of Ministers, and Arctic Parliamentarians seminar: Multilateral Environmental Agreements and their relevance to the Arctic (Arendal, 2006); and
(b) examining the need for new international arrangements or enhancements to existing arrangements; and

3. CALLS ON member states of the Arctic Council to implement marine ecosystem-based management approaches in the Arctic, including consideration of the establishment of a marine protected area covering high seas portions of the Arctic Ocean beyond national jurisdiction;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012:

4. REQUESTS the Director General to:

   (a) ensure that IUCN is well represented by appropriate experts at relevant negotiations dealing with the Arctic;

   (b) take initiative to involve more volunteers among IUCN’s members in furthering its Arctic work; and

   (c) undertake initiatives to further involve Arctic indigenous peoples’ organizations in furthering IUCN’s Arctic work.
4.036 Best practice protected area guideline for ecological restoration

NOTING that the first objective under the IUCN World Commission on Protected Area's (WCPA) strategic direction for Knowledge, Science and Management of Protected Areas is to implement systems to assess the effectiveness of protected area management, leading to an improvement in protected area management;

FURTHER NOTING that a specific target for this objective is to develop by 2013, guidance and standards relating to ecological restoration, protected area design and other key protected area topics;

NOTING that the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) has identified Ecosystem Restoration as one of its five priority programmatic elements and has issued a joint call to action with the Society for Ecological Restoration International to further the principles of the Ecosystem Approach by identifying how ecological restoration can provide enhanced biodiversity outcomes as well as improve human well-being in degraded landscapes;

RECALLING that Resolution 2.16 Climate change, biodiversity, and IUCN's Overall Programme, adopted by the 2 nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), requested the Director General, within available resources, to promote activities to enhance ecosystem resilience to climate change through inter alia ecosystem restoration;

RECALLING the Programme of Work on Protected Areas adopted by Decision VII/28 of the 7th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and particularly:

(a) Sections 1.5.3 and 1.2.5, which call for the implementation of measures for the rehabilitation and restoration of the ecological integrity of protected areas and corridors, networks and buffer zones; and

(b) Section 3.3.3, which calls for the development and use, as well as the transfer of, appropriate technology related to restoration; and

RECOGNIZING that Parks Canada, along with Canadian and international protected areas agencies, representatives of Canadian and international academic institutions and representatives of the Society for Ecological Restoration International and its Indigenous Peoples Restoration Network Working Group, has developed best practice Principles and Guidelines for Ecological Restoration in Canada's Protected Natural Areas aimed at making ecological restoration effective, efficient, and socially and culturally engaging;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:

1. REAFFIRMS the values of ecological restoration and the role and values of public education, societal engagement, and indigenous and local community knowledge in undertaking such initiatives;

2. WELCOMES progress made internationally in developing ecological restoration best practice guidance;

3. AFFIRMS that ecological restoration should be effective, practical and affordable, enable full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, and contribute to long-lasting outcomes of enhanced biodiversity, enhanced ecosystem resilience to climate change and global changes, improved protected area management, and improved human well-being; and

4. ENCOURAGES all IUCN members to support governments and other stakeholders in implementing the initiatives enumerated in paragraph 5 below;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012:

5. REQUESTS the Director General to work in close cooperation with IUCN's Commissions, particularly the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and the
Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), with international terrestrial and marine protected area organizations, indigenous peoples, learned societies, sectoral management bodies, industries and non-governmental organizations involved in restoring the world's ecosystems to:

(a) produce, prior to the next World Conservation Congress, a *Best Practice Protected Area Guideline for Ecological Restoration*;

(b) work with governments on the dissemination, application and use of the Guideline; and

(c) develop and implement programmes for further guidance, awareness raising, capacity building, monitoring and research with regard to ecological restoration in protected areas.
4.038 Recognition and conservation of sacred natural sites in protected areas

RECOGNIZING that one of the oldest forms of culture-based conservation has been the protection of the sacred natural sites of indigenous communities and mainstream faiths, and that these sacred natural sites often harbour rich biodiversity and safeguard valuable landscapes and ecosystems;

AWARE that Sacred Natural Sites are defined in the Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines published in 2008 by IUCN and UNESCO as: "Areas of land or water having special spiritual significance to peoples and communities" (Sacred Natural Sites: Guidelines for Protected Area Managers, No. 16, IUCN, 2008, page xi);

UNDERSTANDING that sacred natural sites - springs of pure water, glaciated mountains, unusual geological formations, forest groves, rivers, lakes and caves - are today and have long been integral to human identity, survival and evolution;

RECALLING that protection of sacred natural sites has been encouraged in the Man and the Biosphere Programme (1970), the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (1971), the World Heritage Convention (1972), the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992), the Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003), Recommendation V.13 Cultural and Spiritual Values of Protected Areas endorsed by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003), Resolution 3.049 Community Conserved Areas adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007);

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:

1. AFFIRMS that urgent action is needed for culturally appropriate sacred natural site conservation and management within (and near) official protected areas;

2. CALLS ON:

(a) government agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to recognize the rights, the skills and the knowledge that local and indigenous custodians and mainstream faith communities have in managing the resources and ecosystems associated with sacred natural sites;

(b) government agencies, NGOs and conservation agencies to work with and support local traditional and indigenous communities and custodians to directly confront threats affecting sacred natural sites by improving the management of sacred natural sites, and where appropriate by adopting laws and policies - with
the full and effective participation of communities or organizations concerned -
that protect the biological and cultural integrity of sacred natural sites; and

(c) protected area agencies and managers to recognize the cultural and spiritual
values of sacred natural sites included within their designated boundaries, and
to recognize and facilitate the rights and interests of the communities or
organizations concerned to manage and use those sacred natural sites where
possible as places for their cultural and spiritual realization and reverence;

3. CALLS FOR increased scientific research into the complex relationship between
biological diversity, cultural diversity and sacred natural sites;

4. ENCOURAGES additional investment in public education and international networks
dedicated to the conservation and protection of sacred natural sites; and

5. REQUESTS the conservation community to promote and participate fully in intercultural
dialogue and conflict resolution with indigenous peoples, local communities and
mainstream faiths to improve collaborative protection of sacred natural sites;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-
14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the
IUCN Programme 2009-2012:

6. REQUESTS the Director General to:

(a) implement and field test the 2008 Sacred Natural Site Guidelines in all IUCN
protected area categories; and

(b) encourage their implementation and field testing in UNESCO Biosphere
Reserves and World Heritage Sites.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.
4.041 Following up on actions called for by the II Latin American Congress of National Parks and Other Protected Areas (Bariloche, 2007)

CONSIDERING that the II Latin American Congress of National Parks and Other Protected Areas, (Bariloche, 30 September to 6 October 2007), was attended by more than 2,200 participants representing a broad spectrum of varied interests, including managers of protected areas, representatives of national and local governments and regional integration organizations, civil organizations devoted to the conservation of nature and social development, international organizations, representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities, scientists, academics and private business people;

SHARING a concern and common commitment that was expressed in the Bariloche Declaration;

RECOGNIZING that the protected areas of the region are part of a Latin American natural and cultural heritage, constituting indispensable instruments for achieving the objectives of sustainable development and for improving the well-being of the peoples of the region, while at the same time contributing solutions to major global environmental problems;

EMPHASIZING the emergence, advance and strengthening of various forms of social organization that have arisen in recent decades, out of which developed shared management of protected areas by states and local actors;

REAFFIRMING support for and commitment to the Convention on Biological Diversity’s (CBD) Programme of Work on Protected Areas as a fundamental means for achieving the goals of protected area systems in a financially sustainable and efficiently managed manner;

RECOGNIZING the advances achieved in the development of national protected area systems, the evaluation of management effectiveness in many of these areas, and the growing capacity of the park ranger corps and other conservation workers;

RECOGNIZING FURTHER the experience gained through the decentralization of governmental functions with respect to the establishment and management of protected areas, the development ecological and functional connectivity initiatives, and the contribution of various governance schemes, such as the co-management of protected areas, areas administered by sub-national and local governments, indigenous peoples, local communities and private property owners;

CONSIDERING that the region is a global leader in joint management and co-management of protected areas along with indigenous peoples, afro-descendants and various ethnic groups whose territories, lands and resources have been in many cases preserved through their traditional knowledge and practices, but that there is insufficient participation of these groups and less than full exercise of their collective and individual rights, which are guaranteed by national and international legislation;

CONCERNED because the impact of climate change, in the form of changes in temperature and precipitation, as well as the consequent variations in the pattern of distribution of biomass and species, constitutes a new threat for the protected areas of Latin America;

ALSO CONCERNED that coastal and marine areas are being subjected to ever-increasing pressures by uses such as fishing, tourism and urban development, which exacerbate their vulnerability; and

RECOGNIZING that the knowledge, innovations and traditional practices of indigenous peoples contribute to the conservation of biological diversity, and therefore to the environmental quality and the sustainable development of Latin America;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:

1. INVITES the governments of Latin America and regional integration organizations to recognize the fundamental role of protected areas in strategies for adapting to climate change, in combating desertification and in promoting regional monitoring, mitigation and adaptation strategies in response to these phenomena;
2. CALLS ON governments, international aid institutions and civil society, for the 2008-2012 period, to agree upon concrete annual budgetary goals and to implement the necessary legal and administrative reforms to close the financial gaps that have been identified in the financial sustainability plans of protected area systems;

3. REQUESTS governments to ensure that commitments, commercial agreements, economic development and infrastructure initiatives do not negatively affect protected areas and reduce the possibility of achieving the conservation and development objectives for which they were created, thus assuring the fulfilment of international conventions, which have a binding character for countries in the region;

4. PROPOSES that governments declare the 2008-2018 period the Decade of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), prioritizing in Latin America the creation of national and regional networks of MPAs and the integrated management of the seas in order to achieve the commitments and goals of 2012 and 2015, increasing during this decade both the number and surface area of MPAs in the region, in coastal zones as well as in the high seas, thus contributing to the conservation and integrated management of biodiversity and marine processes and the maintenance of sustainable fisheries;

5. CALLS FOR the informed participation of local communities, indigenous peoples and afro-descendants, organizations of civil society, women's associations, scientists and academics, users, and the private sector in the participatory planning of protected areas, applying the principles of good governance such as transparency, fairness, accountability and access to conflict management and development mechanisms and initiatives that make possible the effective management of these areas and the equitable distribution of the costs and benefits associated with the establishment and sustainable management of protected areas;

6. CALLS ON civil society to make available and promote widely the results of the II Latin American Congress on National Parks and Other Protected Areas (the 'Bariloche Congress') and the application of its conclusions and recommendations in developing policies and practices designed to strengthen the protected areas of the region; and

7. CALLS ON multilateral cooperation organizations and agencies to adopt the conclusions and recommendations of the Bariloche Congress;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012:

8. REQUESTS the Director General, in consultation with IUCN's Commissions and membership, to incorporate and implement, as appropriate, the recommendations of the Bariloche Congress.
4.047 Empowering local communities to conserve and manage natural resources in Africa

RECOGNIZING that local people have been managing their natural resources for millennia as an essential part of their livelihoods;

OBSERVING that many natural resource policies of the last century undermined the rights of communities to manage and benefit from their environments;

ACKNOWLEDGING that independent African governments have gone some way towards redressing this situation through 'Community-Based Natural Resource Management Programmes' which grant limited rights of access to local resources;

CONCERNED that these measures have not gone far enough to restore the essential rights needed to develop the adaptability and resilience of local communities in the face of new emerging threats such as climate change, food shortages and pan-African human and animal health pandemics;

NOTING that robust management institutions can only be realized, and that economic incentives for sustainable natural resource management are only likely to be optimized, when people have full authority and responsibility for their resources;

EMPHASIZING that the strengthening of these rights is a pre-requisite for local peoples to adapt and survive the growing crisis affecting Africa; and RECALLING Resolution 3.012 Governance of natural resources for conservation and sustainable development adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), which "urges IUCN to serve in a leadership role in relation to governance of natural resources for conservation and sustainable development";

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON African governments to confer legal rights on local people to:
   (a) establish institutions for communal conservation and management of natural resources; and
   (b) define the structure and membership of such institutions;

2. CALLS ON local communities or collectives in Africa to establish institutions to conserve and manage the natural resources on which they depend for their security;

3. URGES local institutions in Africa established to conserve and manage natural resources to be given the authority and responsibility, inter alia, to:
   (a) take all necessary measures to protect their natural resources;
   (b) take all decisions on use of local resources and collaborate with neighbouring institutions when issues of scale demand a wider consideration;
   (c) retain all income and non-monetary benefits from their management; and
   (d) decide on the distribution of all income and benefits from their management; and

4. URGES all interested IUCN members to:
   (a) advocate the case for such rights to be granted to local peoples and to assist governments with the legal basis for conferring such rights; and
   (b) when requested by local communities, to advise and assist them to establish institutions to manage and conserve the natural resources on which they depend for their security;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012:
5. CALLS ON the Director General, where practicable and within the parameters of the Programme, to advise and assist communities wishing assistance to establish institutions to conserve and manage natural resources; and

6. URGES all IUCN Commission members to advise and assist communities wishing assistance to establish institutions to conserve and manage natural resources.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.
4.048 Indigenous peoples, protected areas and implementation of the Durban Accord

RECALLING previous IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations recognizing, promoting and calling for the appropriate implementation of conservation policies and practices that respect the human rights, roles, cultures and traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples in accordance with international agreements and their right to self-determination;

WELCOMING the adoption by United Nations General Assembly in September 2007 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

UNDERLINING that the use of the term "indigenous peoples" is consistent with the above-mentioned Declaration;

RECALLING that the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003) adopted the Durban Accord and the Durban Action Plan, which inter alia:

(a) established a 'new paradigm' of protected areas according to which indigenous peoples’ and local communities’ rights are recognized, respected and upheld in the planning, establishment and management of protected areas;

(b) called for a halt to forced resettlement and involuntary sedentarization of indigenous peoples without their free, prior and informed consent;

(c) encouraged national reviews of innovative governance for protected areas; and

(d) called for the establishment by 2010 of participatory mechanisms for the restitution of indigenous peoples’ lands that were incorporated into protected areas without their free, prior and informed consent;

ALSO RECALLING Decision VII/28 of the 7th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Kuala Lumpur, 2004) which required "that establishment, management and monitoring of protected areas should take place with the full and effective participation, and the full respect for the rights of, indigenous and local communities consistent with national law and applicable international obligations"; and

FURTHER RECALLING that Resolution 3.055 Indigenous Peoples, Protected Areas and the CBD Programme of Work adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress, called:

(a) for IUCN and its members to take action to promote the implementation of the Durban Accord and the Programme of Work of the CBD related to indigenous peoples; and

(b) on the Director General to conduct an implementation review of Resolution 1.53 Indigenous peoples and protected areas adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996) and the document Indigenous and Traditional Peoples and Protected Areas: Principles and Guidelines published by the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and WWF in 1999;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:

1. RESOLVES to apply the requirements of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to the whole of IUCN’s Programme and operations;

2. CALLS ON governments to work with indigenous peoples’ organizations to:

(a) reform national legislation, policies and practices so that they contribute to the realization of the relevant parts of the Durban Accord, CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas, as well as the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; and

(b) ensure that protected areas which affect or may affect indigenous peoples' lands, territories, natural and cultural resources are not established without indigenous peoples’ free, prior and informed consent and to ensure due recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples in existing protected areas; and
3. **CALLS ON IUCN members and international agencies to revise the policies and programmes that fund biodiversity conservation, to ensure their consistency with the** *Durban Accord* and IUCN resolutions on indigenous peoples;

**In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012:**

4. **CALLS ON the Director General, in consultation with IUCN’s Commissions to:**

   (a) develop a mechanism to bring together representatives of indigenous peoples’ organizations, other supportive member organizations of IUCN, and relevant partners, to work in collaboration to:

   (i) review the extent to which all relevant resolutions and recommendations referenced in the preamble have been implemented;

   (ii) advance the key recommendations of the *Durban Accord* and *Durban Action Plan* and the decisions and elements of the CBD *Programme of Work*;

   (iii) develop practical proposals for enhancing IUCN’s capacity to work with indigenous peoples; and

   (iv) promote the recognition of indigenous peoples’ rights and systems pertaining to the use, management, conservation and governance of their territories, lands and natural resources; and

   (b) raise funds for carrying out these activities; and

5. **REQUESTS IUCN Commission Chairs to include experts from indigenous peoples in all the Commissions and their Steering Committees.**

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

The State member Australia provided the following statement for the record:

*Australia has not yet adopted the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Australia has stated it intends to adopt the Declaration after it has consulted with indigenous organizations, other jurisdictions in Australia and other players. This is consistent with Australia’s national apology earlier this year, which began a new relationship with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples based on respect, cooperation and mutual responsibility. Australia will abstain from this and subsequent Motions that call for the adoption of measures in support of the Declaration until these consultations are completed.***

The State member Canada provided the following statement for the record:

*The Government of Canada takes this opportunity to restate its position on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN DRIP). Canada was unable to support the UN DRIP because the text fails to adequately address Canada’s key concerns and lacks clear, practical guidance for States. The UN DRIP is not a legally binding instrument. It has no legal effect in Canada, and its provisions do not represent customary international law. Canada will continue to take effective action, at home and abroad, to protect and promote the rights of indigenous peoples based on our existing human rights obligations and commitments.*

The State member New Zealand provided the following statement for the record:

*While New Zealand fully supports the principles and aspirations of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (DRIP), the Declaration does not enjoy universal support. On 13 September 2007 New Zealand, along with a number of other countries with significant indigenous populations, voted against the Declaration when it was adopted by the UN General Assembly. Some of the Declaration’s key articles are fundamentally incompatible with New Zealand’s legal, constitutional and democratic arrangements. Our explanation of vote is a matter of public record.*

*For the reasons explained, New Zealand will not support those Motions containing references such as adopting, endorsing or implementing the Declaration.*
New Zealand will continue to support efforts to promote and protect the rights of indigenous peoples.

The State member United Kingdom provided the following statement for the record:

The UK fully supports the provisions in this Declaration which recognize that indigenous individuals are entitled to the full protection of their human rights and fundamental freedoms in international law, on an equal basis to all other individuals. Human rights are universal and equal to all.

We would like to recall here that, since equality and universality are the fundamental principles underpinning human rights, we do not accept that some groups in society should benefit from human rights that are not available to others. With the exception of the right to self-determination (Common Article 1 of the two International Human Rights Covenants), we therefore do not accept the concept of collective human rights in international law. Of course certain individual human rights can often be exercised collectively, in community with others. Examples are freedom of association, freedom of religion or a collective title to property.

This remains a long-standing and well-established position of the UK. It is one we consider to be important in ensuring that individuals within groups are not left vulnerable or unprotected by allowing rights of the group to supersede the human rights of the individual. This is without prejudice to the UK’s recognition of the fact that the governments of many states with indigenous populations have granted them various collective rights in their constitutions, national laws and agreements. Indeed, we warmly welcome this fact, which has served to strengthen the political and economic position of and protections for indigenous peoples in those states.
4.049 Supporting Indigenous Conservation Territories and other Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Areas

AWARE that a considerable part of the Earth's surviving biodiversity is located on territories and areas under the ownership, control and/or management of indigenous peoples and local communities, including mobile peoples;

NOTING that such peoples and communities exercise their governance through both customary laws and other effective means, and that their territories and areas add considerably to humanity's efforts to protect and conserve biodiversity, agricultural diversity and cultural diversity;

ALSO NOTING that their conserved territories and areas serve often as examples of ways to reconcile biodiversity conservation, livelihoods and food sovereignty, and are crucial to local sustainable development and cultural identity;

RECALLING Resolution 3.049 Community Conserved Areas adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), which provides a clear direction on the need to recognize and support "natural or modified ecosystems, including significant biodiversity, ecological services, and cultural values, voluntarily conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities through customary laws or other effective means";

CELEBRATING the 2007 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and stressing that the 2004 Programme of Work on Protected Areas of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) recommends that Parties to the CBD should recognize and support Community Conserved Areas;

WELCOMING the work carried out by TILCEPA - a joint Theme of the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas WCPA) - to support inventories and participatory action research studies of Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) in various parts of the world, provide technical advice on issues at the interface of CCAs and livelihoods, equity, poverty eradication and food sovereignty, and facilitate innovative thinking on the subject leading to improved policies and practices;

CONSCIOUS that Indigenous Conservation Territories and other Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Areas (ICTs and IPCCAs) are recognized by IUCN as important governance types in protected area systems;

ACKNOWLEDGING the tremendous variety of situations on a regional basis and that concepts and approaches are evolving among governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, including traditional fishing folks, pastoralists and peasants;

CONSIDERING that while most ICTs and IPCCAs remain unrecognized and largely outside official protected area networks, national recognition of these areas relies at times on hastily developed or otherwise inappropriate mechanisms that include the top-down imposition of homogenized institutional structures, rules or governance mechanisms;

ALSO CONSIDERING, on the other hand, that a number of countries have recognized ICTs and IPCCAs in appropriate ways within or outside their protected area systems, including through laws and policies that fully acknowledge the rights of indigenous peoples and other communities;

HIGHLIGHTING that ICTs and IPCCAs are facing ongoing and imminent threats, including from unsustainable development policies and projects, aggressive practices of extractive industries and industrial agriculture, insecure tenure arrangements, de-legitimization of customary rights, inequities of a social, economic and political nature, loss of knowledge, cultural change and climate change and - most recently - inappropriate forms of recognition by governmental agencies and conservation organizations; and

RECOGNIZING that indigenous peoples and local communities need support to be able to respond to these threats in ways that are both effective and equitable and which restore local adaptability and resilience;
The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN's members to:
   (a) fully acknowledge the conservation significance of Indigenous Conservation Territories and other Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Areas - comprising conserved sites, territories, landscapes/seascapes and sacred places - governed and managed by indigenous peoples and local communities, including mobile peoples;
   (b) support the fair restitution of territorial, land and natural resource rights, consistent with conservation and social objectives as considered appropriate by the indigenous peoples and local communities governing existing ICTs and IPCCAs and/or interested in establishing new ones;
   (c) ensure that any inclusion of ICTs and IPCCAs within national systems is made with indigenous peoples' free prior and informed consent and after full consultation with local communities and proper consideration of their concerns; and
   (d) support indigenous peoples and local communities to protect ICTs and IPCCAs against external threats by applying the principles of free prior and informed consent, participatory social, environmental and cultural impact assessments, and other measures as elaborated in CBD decision VII/28 or other international agreements with reference to new development and conservation initiatives;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012:

2. URGES the IUCN Director General and the Chairs of all IUCN Commissions to provide leadership and supportive roles in the national and international recognition of ICTs and IPCCAs as a legitimate form of biodiversity conservation, through:
   (a) providing assistance to CBD members in implementing the relevant elements of the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas within a strict framework of respect for human rights in conservation; and
   (b) facilitating self-monitoring and evaluation of ICTs and IPCCAs consistent with their own governance systems by relevant indigenous peoples and local communities in collaboration with outside agencies/actors, as appropriate, and establishing effective mechanisms of internal and external accountability; and

3. REQUESTS CEESP and WCPA to renew and strengthen support and continue work in:
   (a) understanding ICTs and IPCCAs in their regional, national and culture-specific dimensions and identifying examples of mechanisms and safeguards that can ensure their appropriate and nonintrusive national and international recognition;
   (b) promoting the recognition of ICTs and IPCCAs, within or outside national protected area systems and the wider conserved landscape/ seascape, as local governance types unique to the indigenous peoples and local communities concerned (observing the requirements in paragraph 1(c) below);
   (c) supporting the CBD Secretariat and Parties in regional workshops and other processes to enhance capacities and promote appropriate policies and practices for the implementation of the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas, and its element 2 in particular; and
   (d) guiding relevant bodies in the updating of the World Database on Protected Areas, the UN List of Protected Areas, the State of the World's Protected Areas and other relevant databases or documents to ensure inclusion of ICTs and IPCCAs only where and as appropriate.

The Statements for the record made by the State members Australia, Canada and New Zealand in relation to Resolution 4.048 also apply to this Resolution.
4.050 Recognition of Indigenous Conservation Territories

NOTING that Latin America provides global leadership in co-management and shared responsibility for protected areas along with indigenous peoples, afrodescendents and various ethnic groups, whose territories, lands and resources have been in many cases preserved through their traditional practices and knowledge;

ALSO NOTING that there is still insufficient participation of these groups and that they do not fully exercise their collective and individual rights, which are guaranteed by national and international legislation;

RECOGNIZING how important it is that this rich human resource, in regard to experience and lessons learned, be appropriately utilized for policy making and establishing global and regional technical guidelines on protected areas, and for promoting scientific and traditional knowledge, as well as respect for the human rights of the peoples and communities that have inhabited these areas from time immemorial;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the knowledge, innovations and traditional practices of indigenous peoples contribute to the conservation of biological diversity, and therefore to environmental quality and sustainable development in Latin America and other parts of the world;

AWARE that the range of options for protecting areas of high ecological and cultural value must be broadened, for which it is necessary to use the range of existing options in the various categories of protected areas, under different schemes of administration and governance; and

NOTING the need to facilitate and strengthen the informed participation of local communities, indigenous peoples, afro-descendants, civil society organizations, women's associations, scientists and academics, consumers, as well as the private sector in the participatory planning of protected areas, applying the principles of good governance, such as transparency, fairness, accountability and access to conflict management mechanisms, and the development of mechanisms and initiatives that permit the effective management of these areas and the equitable distribution of the costs and benefits associated with the establishment and sustainable management of protected areas;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON states, in a framework of cooperation that takes into account national and regional particularities, to make available the means to enable the full exercising and effective implementation of all the rights recognized by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012:

2. CALLS ON the Director General to promote and support the recognition of Indigenous Conservation Territories as a legitimate model of governance of protected areas superimposed over the territories of indigenous peoples, following the governance guidelines contained in the IUCN publication, Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories, independent of the management category, taking into account the need for the integration of culture and nature, the role of customary law, traditional constituted authority, and the exercise of indigenous authority in such territories.
State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

The Statements for the record made by the State members Australia, Canada and New Zealand in relation to Resolution 4.048 also apply to this Resolution.
4.051 Indigenous peoples and protected areas of La Mosquitia in Mesoamerica

RECALLING previous IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations that address the roles and rights of indigenous peoples:

(a) Recommendation 18.16 Recognition of the Role of Indigenous Communities adopted by the 18th IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990);

(b) Resolution 19.20 IUCN Action on Indigenous People and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources, Resolution 19.23 The Importance of Community-based Approaches, Recommendation 19.21 Indigenous People and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Recommendation 19.22 Indigenous People adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994); and

(c) Resolution 1.53 Indigenous Peoples and Protected Areas, Resolution 1.54 Indigenous Peoples and Conservation in Meso-America, Resolution 1.55 Indigenous Peoples and Forests and Resolution 1.56 Indigenous Peoples and the Andes adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996);

ALSO RECALLING Resolution 2.81 Mining concessions and protected areas in Mesoamerica adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) and Recommendation V.24 Indigenous Peoples and Protected Areas noted at the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003);

MINDFUL of the provisions of Convention 169 of the International Labour Organization (ILO) concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples and of those of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), as well as of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (September 2007), and the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which guarantee the rights of indigenous peoples to self-determination, prior informed consultation and the ownership, use, management and conservation of biodiversity and natural resources of their territories;

RECALLING that IUCN, in the framework of its Initiative for Indigenous Peoples and Conservation, committed itself to establish a Mesoamerican Working Group on indigenous peoples and protected areas;

BEARING IN MIND that the indigenous territories of La Mosquitia in Honduras and Nicaragua host the largest contiguous remaining tropical rainforest area in Mesoamerica, as well as most of the protected areas of the countries concerned; and that they jointly constitute the so-called ‘core’ of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor (MBC), including the Rio Platano Biosphere Reserve, designated by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site, the Tawahka Asangni Biosphere Reserve and the Patuca National Park in Honduras, and the Bosawas Biosphere Reserve in Nicaragua;

CONCERNED by the pressures to which the indigenous territories and protected areas of La Mosquitia, which constitute the core of the MBC, are subjected, particularly the rapid escalation of uncontrolled agricultural, logging and livestock encroachment, which results in accelerated forest loss and conversion, estimated at 10,000 hectares annually in Honduras alone, with increasingly severe impacts on watersheds, wetlands and marine/coastal areas;

FURTHER CONCERNED, that these damaging impacts will further increase with agrobiofuel production, mining exploration and exploitation and construction of the Patuca III mega-dam, and that all of these activities endanger the medium- and long-term sustainability of this important transboundary system of protected areas, as well as the habitat and life of the indigenous and afrodescendant communities who have historically lived in these territories, thus violating these peoples’ rights, guaranteed by international standards;

RECALLING that the MBC core protected areas are priority sites for Mesoamerican and global conservation, pursuant to the provisions of the Central American Regional Biodiversity Convention (1992); and

RECOGNIZING the contribution received from the IUCN Regional Office for Meso-America (IUCNORMA) facilitating the holding of meetings of representatives of indigenous peoples in the Mesoamerican region, especially after the II Latin American Congress of National Parks and
Other Protected Areas (Bariloche, 2007), and noting that this support and encouragement from the Union was invaluable for creating the first draft of the Regional Indigenous Agenda, and improving the organization and positioning of the Indigenous Networks of Mesoamerica;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012:

REQUESTS the Director General, IUCN Commissions, members, Regional Councillors and particularly IUCNORMA, utilizing available resources, as well as other resources that could be raised, to work on the following:

(a) carrying out an assessment of the current status of MBC’s core protected areas, highlighting biodiversity threats and the exercise of the rights of indigenous and afro-descendant peoples;

(b) lobbying the Governments of Honduras and Nicaragua so that they respond to the findings of the assessment and contribute to the creation of short-, medium- and long-term plans to tackle these challenges;

(c) submitting the assessment report to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, and lobbying them so that UNESCO presents recommendations to Honduras and Nicaragua to safeguard the integrity of the protected areas and the rights of the indigenous and afro-descendant peoples;

(d) forming alliances with members of IUCN in the Mesoamerican Region in order to implement an action plan based on the findings of the assessment, so as to start a process aimed at reducing the advance of the agricultural frontier, as well as restoring and protecting watersheds, wetlands and forests in protected areas located on the agricultural frontiers of the MBC’s core area and other important ecosystems in the indigenous peoples’ territory;

(e) asking the Government of Honduras, in accordance with the recommendations of the World Commission on Dams and the rights of the indigenous peoples guaranteed in the ILO Convention 169 and in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, to present complete documentation on the social, environmental, economic and cultural impacts of the Patuca III mega dam project, building of which is planned to start 2009, and to consider whether it will be compatible with the CBD Akwé Kon Voluntary Guidelines;

(f) consulting the Government of Taiwan, a Province of China, as a funding body of the Patuca III mega dam project, on whether it has assessed the social, cultural, environmental and economic impacts on indigenous peoples, and on the MBC’s core protected areas;

(g) jointly formulating with IUCN members in Mesoamerica, sectoral guides for the assessment of infrastructure projects such as development of roads, dams, mining resources and hydrocarbon exploration and exploitation and the growing of agrobiofuel crops, which can compromise the integrity of natural resources, biodiversity, livelihoods and the rights of indigenous and afro-descendant peoples, ensuring the incorporation of the CBD Akwé Kon Voluntary Guidelines and other similar guidelines;

(h) creating a Mesoamerican working group of indigenous peoples along with IUCN-ORMA, as an area for dialogue, understanding, consultation and lobbying on governance issues, management categories, restitution and the specific indigenous system found in the protected areas, as well as the impacts of climate change and projects that have a negative effect on their territories and natural resources, as set out in the ILO Convention 169;

(i) implementing an appropriate internal surveillance, monitoring and assessment system on the inclusion of and compliance with the rights of indigenous peoples in the strategies, policies, programmes and projects facilitated by the different IUCN-ORMA offices; and
including La Mosquitia Honduras and Nicaragua region, as part of IUCN ORMA’s geographical priorities for intervention, guaranteeing strategic alliances with the members of the Union present in the region.

The statement for the record made by the State member Canada in relation to Resolution 4.048 also applies to this Resolution.
4.052 Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

WELCOMING the adoption of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on 13 September 2007;

UNDERLINING that the use of the term 'indigenous peoples' is consistent with the aforementioned UN Declaration;

RECOGNIZING that the UN Declaration is the accepted international mechanism for relieving the tremendous pressures and crises faced by indigenous peoples throughout the world as they endeavour to protect indigenous ecosystems, including biological, cultural and linguistic diversity;

SHARING the Republic of Bolivia's concerns that "at the day of adoption of the Declaration, the Planet was clearly wounded" and while "it did not solve the problems, nor ease the tensions between people," it was a step forward in allowing indigenous peoples to "participate in global processes for the betterment of all societies";

NOTING that the 76th session of the General Conference of the International Labour Organization (June 1989) adopted Convention No. 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries, which entered into force on 5 September 1991, and which furthers respect for indigenous peoples and facilitates their participation in decision making;

RECALLING that the UN Declaration recognizes "... that respect for indigenous knowledge, cultures and traditional practices contributes to sustainable and equitable development and proper management of the environment...";

RECOGNIZING that the II Latin American Congress of National Parks and Other Protected Areas (Bariloche, 2007) acknowledged that Indigenous Conservation Territories are a legitimate governance model for protected areas established in indigenous peoples' ancestral territories, a model whose key features are the integration of culture and nature, the role of customary rights, the traditional institutions and exercise of Indigenous authority in such territories;

RECOGNIZING that the ability of indigenous peoples to protect and support biological and cultural diversity is strengthened by a fuller recognition of their fundamental human rights, both individual and collective, and that there is a correlation between the rapid decline of biodiversity and the destruction of Indigenous linguistic and cultural diversity;

ACKNOWLEDGING that indigenous peoples have suffered greatly from the colonization of their lands, territories and resources, and from historic institutional efforts to destroy indigenous languages (linguacide), cultures and spiritual traditions;

NOTING that these culturally and ecologically destructive effects are conceptually rooted in several Vatican papal bulls and other similar documents on indigenous peoples - Dum diversas (1452), Romanus Pontifex (1455), Inter Caetera (1493), Letters Patent to John Cabot (1496), (official authorizations to "invade, capture, vanquish, and subdue," as well as "subjugate," indigenous peoples, to "reduce their persons to perpetual slavery," and "take away all their possessions and property") - which led to such present-day judicial doctrines as "discovery," "terra nullius," and "terra nullus," as revealed by indigenous scholars during the United Nations Decades of the World's Indigenous Peoples;

CONCERNED that, to this day, these historic doctrines have continued to prevent indigenous peoples from exercising their full right of self-determination and traditional responsibilities in relation to their lands and territories, thereby resulting in tremendous losses of ecological and biological diversity, sacred sites and places, making the UN Declaration necessary;

EMPHASIZING that the foundations for sustainable development require intra-generational and intergenerational equity;

RECOGNIZING AND REAFFIRMING that indigenous individuals are entitled to all human rights recognized in international law, and that indigenous peoples possess collective rights which are indispensable to their existence, well-being and integral development as peoples;
ACKNOWLEDGING that the UN Declaration restates that indigenous peoples have the right to self-determination, freely determining their political status, and pursuing their economic, social and cultural development;


The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October:

1. ENDORSES the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
2. CALLS ON all IUCN members to endorse or adopt the UN Declaration, and to apply it in their relevant activities;
3. DIRECTS Council to form a task force to examine the application of the Declaration to every aspect of the IUCN Programme (including Commission Mandates), policies and practices and to make recommendations for its implementation;
4. ACKNOWLEDGES that injustices to indigenous peoples have been and continue to be caused in the name of conservation of nature and natural resources; and
5. INVITES international organizations to provide all appropriate financial and other capacity-building measures to ensure participation by indigenous peoples and their communities in sustainable development;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012:

6. INSTRUCTS the Director General and Commissions to identify and propose mechanisms to address and redress the effects of historic and current injustices against indigenous peoples in the name of conservation of nature and natural resources; and
7. REQUESTS that the Director General make indigenous peoples' role in conserving biological and cultural diversity a main concern of IUCN and future World Conservation Congresses, and present a statement of progress to the annual UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues beginning in April 2009.

The Statements for the record made by the State members Australia, Canada, New Zealand and United Kingdom in relation to Resolution 4.048 also apply to this Resolution.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.
4.053 Mobile indigenous peoples and biodiversity conservation

NOTING that mobile indigenous peoples (e.g. nomadic pastoralists, sea-nomads, shifting agriculturalists and hunter-gatherers) are a subset of indigenous and traditional peoples whose livelihoods depend on extensive common property use of natural resources and whose mobility is both a management strategy for sustainable resource use and conservation and a distinctive source of cultural identity;

RECOGNIZING that mobility is used as a strategy for the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of natural resources;

CONSIDERING the mounting scientific evidence that mobile use of natural resources in many cases promotes environmental integrity and conservation of both wild and domestic biodiversity;

NOTING the principles of the Dana Declaration on Mobile Peoples and Conservation which was adopted by the Dana Conference, (Jordan, April 2002), and noting that two IUCN Commissions, the World Commission on Protected Areas (WPCA) and the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) participated in the organization of this meeting;

RECALLING Resolution 1.53 Indigenous Peoples and Protected Areas adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996) and Recommendation 2.92 Indigenous peoples, sustainable use of natural resources, and international trade adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

FURTHER RECALLING guidance provided in Recommendation V.26 Community Conserved Areas, Recommendation V.27 Mobile Indigenous Peoples and Conservation, and Outcomes 3 and 5 of the Durban Accord, noted by participants in the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003), and Resolution 3.018 Mobile peoples and conservation that was adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

CONSIDERING that in many cases, the pursuit of development and conservation has alienated mobile indigenous peoples from the lands and resources traditionally used by them, with the consequent loss of livelihoods and erosion of cultures, and resulting in the loss of indispensable indigenous knowledge of customary management of biodiversity resources and conservation practices needed today; and

COMMENDING and SUPPORTING the Segovia Declaration of Nomadic and Transhumant Pastoralists, resulting from the World Gathering of Nomadic and Transhumant Pastoralists (Segovia, Spain, September 2007), in furtherance of IUCN Resolution 3.018 and the Dana Declaration, celebrating the strong interrelation between biodiversity conservation, mobility and sustainable livelihoods;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:

1. ENDORSES the five principles of the Dana Declaration on Mobile Peoples and Conservation contained in the Annex to this Resolution; and

2. COMMENDS CEESP and the other IUCN Commissions for the valuable work they have done to bring to the fore the special vulnerabilities of mobile indigenous peoples in biodiversity conservation;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012:

3. CALLS ON IUCN's Commissions and the Secretariat to:

(a) adhere to the five principles of the Dana Declaration; and

(b) seek a positive and constructive alliance with mobile indigenous peoples’ organizations such as the World Alliance of Mobile Indigenous Peoples (WAMIP)
through concrete field-based conservation initiatives and policy support for a meaningful real inclusion and consideration of mobile pastoralists in all decision-making processes affecting them.

ANNEX:

Dana Declaration on Mobile Peoples and Conservation

I. RIGHTS AND EMPOWERMENT. Conservation approaches with potential impact on mobile peoples and their natural resources must recognize mobile peoples' rights, management responsibilities and capacities, and should lead to effective empowerment.

II. TRUST AND RESPECT. Beneficial partnerships between conservation interests and mobile peoples should be based upon mutual trust and respect and address the issue of discrimination against mobile peoples.

III. DIFFERENT KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS. In planning and implementing conservation of biodiversity with mobile peoples, there is a need to respect and incorporate their traditional knowledge and management practices. Given that no knowledge system is infallible, the complementary use of traditional and mainstream sciences is a valuable means of meeting the changing needs of mobile peoples and answering conservation dilemmas.

IV. ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT. Conservation of biodiversity and natural resources within areas inhabited or used by mobile peoples requires the application of adaptive management approaches. Such approaches should build on traditional/existing cultural models and incorporate mobile peoples' worldviews, aspirations and customary law. They should work towards the physical and cultural survival of mobile peoples and the long-term conservation of biodiversity.

V. COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT. Adequate institutional structures for adaptive management should be based on the concept of equitable sharing of decision-making and management responsibilities between mobile peoples and conservation agencies. This is only possible if the existing decision-making mechanisms for biodiversity conservation become more democratic and transparent, so as to allow for the full and open participation of civil society and mobile peoples, in particular, and for the establishment of co-management and self-management systems.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.
4.055 Integrating culture and cultural diversity into IUCN's policy and Programme

CONSIDERING that for millennia human communities have interacted with their local biodiversity and developed belief and value systems upon which are based a diversity of environmental management and conservation practices;

FURTHER CONSIDERING that conventional conservation paradigms have not sufficiently taken into account and effectively incorporated the way in which systems of knowledge and practice differ across cultural groups, and that this can become an obstacle to achieving effective conservation;

NOTING that IUCN's Vision and Mission focus on justice and equity, imply respect for human cultures, and that IUCN constituents should be cognizant of relevant issues;

RECOGNIZING that biodiversity conservation policy, planning and implementation need to be better informed by research and knowledge regarding the integral relations between culture and environmental management and conservation and between cultural and biological diversity;

CONCERNED that cultural diversity, like biological diversity, is seriously threatened around the world, and that this leads to the collective impoverishment of humanity and the diminishment of knowledge and practice that contribute to living in ecologically sustainable ways;

RECOGNIZING that IUCN supports the principles expressed in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, and that IUCN has a solid body of policy recognizing indigenous people's rights but not specifically concerning relations between culture and environmental management and conservation or between cultural and biological diversity;

ACKNOWLEDGING that a variety of international declarations, programmes and documents recognize integral relationships between cultural values, environmental management and biodiversity conservation, including: the UN Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples; the Convention on Biological Diversity (Articles 8j and 10c); the Earth Charter principles 8b, 12 and 12b; the UN Declaration on Social and Economic Rights; the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) 4th Global Environment Outlook; and

CONSIDERING that the Resolutions adopted by the 3rd Session of the IUCN World Conservation Congress call for improved knowledge, policy and practice that link cultural and biological diversity, and address their common threats and opportunities to strengthen linkages;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:

1. URGES all of IUCN's members and partners, and the broader conservation community, to establish appropriate mechanisms to apply the principles contained herein in their work and to develop policies to generate improved understanding of the relations between culture, cultural diversity and biological diversity consistent with these principles; and

2. REQUESTS IUCN's members and partners to endorse, support, participate in and advocate the development of a clear policy on understanding and incorporating diverse cultural values and practices into the planning, design and implementation of programmes to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable, based on the following principles:

   (a) cultural groups understand, and interact with, their natural surroundings through a variety of belief and value systems, knowledge systems, and practices that affect the condition of biological diversity;

   (b) lasting effective conservation practice depends on an in-depth understanding of the relations between ecological conditions and the complex beliefs and values, knowledge systems, and practices of diverse cultural groups; and
the need to use a plurality of appropriate methodological approaches to develop a better understanding of the complex interrelations between in situ ecological conditions and the relevant beliefs and values, knowledge systems, and practices of local cultural groups;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012:

3. REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN Commissions to endorse, support, participate in and advocate for the development of a clear policy on understanding and incorporating diverse cultural values and practices into the planning, design and implementation of programmes to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable, based on the principles listed in sub-paragraphs 3 (a) to (c) above;

4. REQUESTS the Commission Chairs to collaborate in developing policy and technical guidance on the linkages between biological and cultural diversity; and

5. CALLS ON the Director General to give special attention to the integration of culture and environmental management and conservation, and between cultural diversity and biological diversity, within the IUCN Programme.
4.056 Rights-based approaches to conservation


RECALLING that links between human rights and the environment have been spelled out in several policy instruments, among others the 1972 *Stockholm Declaration*, the 1982 *World Charter for Nature*, or the 1992 *Rio Declaration* and *Agenda 21*;

CONSCIOUS that human rights-related responsibilities of state as well as non-state actors, including the private sector, financial institutions, development banks, NGOs and environmental organizations in general, are still evolving, though international human-rights law has so far been addressed primarily to state parties;

RECOGNIZING that conservation practices can affect human well-being and at times have undermined human rights including through forced resettlements and sedentarization, exclusions and economic and cultural impoverishments and impacts on local livelihoods, especially of indigenous peoples and local communities;

CONVINCED that the development of rights-based approaches to conservation and their proper implementation, will help all actors to respect, protect and also promote guaranteed substantive and procedural rights during the life of any activity, and therefore to:

(a) abstain from violating or directly or indirectly interfering with an individual's pursuit or enjoyment of guaranteed rights; and
(b) ensure through control, monitoring, investigation and enforcement the observance of rights;

COMMITTED TO IUCN's Vision of "a just world that values and conserves nature" and Mission to ensure that "any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable";

RECALLING that Resolution 3.015 *Conserving nature and reducing poverty by linking human rights and the environment* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) affirmed that "... social equity cannot be achieved without the promotion, protection and guarantee of all human rights..." and "requests the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law to provide additional legal research, analysis and resources, and build the capacity of members in the enforcement of environmental laws, in close collaboration with IUCN members";

NOTING the significant and substantial work done by the IUCN Environmental Law Centre (ELC) in collaboration with the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) and IUCN members, aiming to inform all actors about the meaning of a rights-based approach to conservation and its potential contribution to successful conservation and to the enjoyment of human rights by individuals and communities;

WELCOMING the ongoing work on conservation and human rights of the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and IUCN Senior Social Policy Advisor; and

RECOGNIZING the ideal position of IUCN to:

(a) assist and promote policies of state and non-state actors, at the international and national levels, which apply rights-based approaches; and

(b) promote conservation policies and practices respectful of collective and individual rights and responsibilities, especially those of indigenous peoples and local communities;
The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session at Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN’s governmental and non-governmental members as well as non-member states and non-state actors, to:
   (a) develop and/or work towards application of rights-based approaches, to ensure respect for, and where possible further fulfilment of human rights, tenure and resource access rights, and/or customary rights of indigenous peoples and local communities in conservation policies, programmes, projects and related activities;
   (b) encourage relevant government agencies, private actors, businesses and civil-society actors to monitor the impacts of conservation activities on human rights as part of a rights-based approach;
   (c) encourage and establish mechanisms to ensure that private-sector entities fully respect all human rights, including indigenous peoples’ rights, and take due responsibilities for the environmental and social damage they engender in their activities; and
   (d) promote an understanding of responsibilities and synergies between human rights and conservation;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012:

2. REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN’s Commissions to engage with IUCN’s members, representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities, and other relevant partners to:
   (a) facilitate exchange of experiences, methods and tools on rights-based approaches to conservation;
   (b) develop greater understanding and capacity for rights-based approaches;
   (c) actively promote and support the adoption and implementation of such approaches; and
   (d) explore ways to ensure rights-based approaches enhance conservation objectives;

3. CALLS ON the IUCN Council and the Director General, in collaboration with CEESP, CEL and other Commissions, IUCN members, representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities, and other relevant partners to:
   (a) promote the analysis of rights-based approaches as a cross-cutting principle within IUCN and its membership;
   (b) develop a comprehensive IUCN Policy on Conservation and Human Rights, including guidance on rights-based approaches to conservation, to be tabled for adoption at the 5th IUCN World Conservation Congress;
   (c) use the principles concerning human rights in conservation prepared by ELC as one starting point for further consultation, reflection and development (see the Annex to this decision), as well as drawing on other relevant guidance; and
   (d) undertake further work to support and guide IUCN on the implementation of policies and actions reflecting a rights-based approach to conservation.

ANNEX:

Principles concerning human rights in conservation prepared by the IUCN environmental Law Centre (eLC):

1. Promote the obligation of all state and non-state actors planning or engaged in policies, projects, programmes or activities with implications for nature conservation, to secure
for all potentially affected persons and peoples, the substantive and procedural rights that are guaranteed by national and international law.

2. Ensure prior evaluation of the scope of conservation policies, projects, programmes or activities, so that all links between human rights and the environment are identified, and all potentially affected persons are informed and consulted.

3. Ensure that planning and implementation of conservation policies and actions reflect such prior evaluation, are based on reasoned decisions and therefore do not harm the vulnerable, but support as much as possible the fulfilment of their rights in the context of nature and natural resource use.

4. Incorporate guidelines and tools in project and programme planning to ensure monitoring and evaluation of all interventions and their implications for human rights of the people involved or potentially affected which will support better accountability and start a feedback loop.

5. Support improvement of governance frameworks on matters regarding the legal and policy frameworks, institutions and procedures that can secure the rights of local people in the context of conservation and sustainable resource use.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.
4.068 Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD)

RECALLING Recommendation 18.23 Land Degradation and Recommendation 18.30 Legal Instruments for the Conservation of Forests adopted by the 18th IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990); Resolution 1.55 Indigenous Peoples and Forests adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996); Recommendation 2.94 Climate change mitigation and land use adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000); Resolution 3.012 Governance of natural resources for conservation and sustainable development, Resolution 3.015 Conserving nature and reducing poverty by linking human rights and the environment and Resolution 3.057 Adapting to climate change: a framework for conservation action adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

HIGHLIGHTING that the Mission of IUCN is to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable;

RESPONDING to the findings of the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that warming of the climate system due to human activity is unequivocal and that immediate and deep cuts in global emissions are required to avoid dangerous climate change;

RECOGNIZING that land-use change in the tropics, principally deforestation, accounts for around one-fifth of global anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and that in many countries forest degradation often precedes deforestation;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that biodiverse ecosystems, particularly forests, have a crucial role to play in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating climate impacts and that natural ecosystems are suffering directly from the impacts of climate change and also from the perverse impacts of measures which are supposed to tackle climate change, for example clearing natural vegetation to plant agrofuel crops;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Earth’s remaining natural ecosystems are essential to regulate the climate and keep the planet habitable and that extensive, natural forests are especially valuable as stable, resilient, very large carbon stores, which must be protected and restored;

NOTING the Bali Action Plan and in particular Decision 2/CP.13 Reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries: approaches to stimulate actions, adopted by the 13th Meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP13) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and 3rd Meeting of the Parties (CMP3) to the Kyoto Protocol (Bali, December 2007);

FURTHER NOTING that COP13 and CMP3 agreed to invite Parties and relevant organizations and stakeholders to explore options including demonstration activities that address Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) in developing countries, based on the sustainable management of forests;

ALSO RESPONDING to the recommendations of the 9th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP9) establishing an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change to develop scientific and technical advice on biodiversity in so far as it relates to climate change and Decision 1/CP.13 Bali Action Plan of UNFCCC COP13 as well as the UNFCCC Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change so as to support the enhanced implementation of synergies between the CBD and UNFCCC;

RECOGNIZING that forest protection and good forest governance, equitable participation and sustainable forest management are crucial for REDD;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that there are unavoidable changes in climate and therefore adaptation and resilience strategies are essential for the conservation and sustainable management of forests;

RECOGNIZING that forest destruction through clearing and industrial-scale logging, the degradation and desertification of shrublands and grasslands, and industrial-scale agrofuel
production (including tree crops grown to produce energy) are all contributing to climate change and that emissions from clearing and degradation of other natural ecosystems add to this;

RECOGNIZING that mechanisms are needed to prevent reforestation for biofuels or carbon reservoirs replacing valuable ecosystems including shrublands and tussock grasslands which in themselves are carbon reservoirs;

AWARE of the new and economic opportunities offered by the creation of a carbon market resulting from binding agreements and incentives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and of the potential extension of these economic opportunities to REDD activities;

BEARING IN MIND that a properly designed and appropriately regulated climate change mitigation funding mechanism for REDD might provide new sources of funding for biodiversity conservation, contribute to the maintenance of ecosystem functions and promote rural development;

CONSIDERING, however, that in the absence of effective design and regulations, such an incentive system can have perverse effects such as an increase in deforestation and forest degradation at other sites (so-called 'leakage'), and social marginalization from resource capture by privileged and powerful actors, possibly resulting in the net impoverishment of forest-dependent, vulnerable communities;

INFORMED that the carbon market, in its current architecture, has failed to address adequately the concerns listed above, and that some perverse effects are already observed on the ground in Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF - see the Marrakech Accords of the UNFCCC) projects financed by the unregulated, voluntary carbon market;

ALSO INFORMED that the architecture and rules presently discussed concerning the REDD modality risk the replication and extension of these perverse effects, causing serious and justified concerns among indigenous peoples and local communities living within and around forests;

FURTHER INFORMED that indigenous peoples and local communities are actively mobilizing for the recognition of their land and resource-use rights and some have expressed serious reservations about market-based REDD mechanisms; and

WELCOMING the work the IUCN Secretariat has initiated in collaboration with several members and partners to optimize synergies between poverty reduction, forest sector reform processes such as Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) and 'readiness mechanisms' designed to help countries prepare for REDD;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:

1. URGES all IUCN members and all Parties to the UNFCCC to:

   (a) include REDD within a post-2012 climate policy regime as a fully integrated companion mechanism aligned with, and contingent on, deep reductions of carbon emissions from the use of fossil fuels with the ultimate objective of rapidly stabilizing atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide (CO2);

   (b) ensure that REDD initiatives are designed strategically to align with, complement and reinforce established national priorities, including poverty reduction strategies, national biodiversity action plans, sustainable forest management efforts and forest governance reform processes; and

   (c) ensure that national and sub-national initiatives for REDD:

      (i) include substantial incentives for reducing and reversing forest degradation;

      (ii) include ecosystem approaches such as forest landscape restoration (FLR) that promote sustainable and multifunctional land use, resilience to climate change and the integrity of indigenous communities;

      (iii) recognize both the local and global values of biodiversity;

      (iv) ensure equitable participation of local forest dependent communities and indigenous peoples with particular emphasis on securing rights,
land tenure, livelihood benefits and poverty reduction, and the provision of substantial incentives for reducing and reversing deforestation and the degradation of indigenous ecosystems, especially forest ecosystems;

(v) build resilience, enhance adaptive capacity and are integrated into broader national adaptation strategies;

(vi) ensure equitable sharing of benefits and costs between agencies of government and forest communities, and within forest communities; and

(vii) apply effective social safeguards to protect the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities including relevant provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012:

2. URGES and REQUESTS the Director General to:
   (a) support the integration of REDD policies and strategies into national and sub-national poverty reduction efforts, national biodiversity action plans, forest protection, sustainable forest management initiatives and forest governance-reform processes;
   (b) facilitate partnerships among relevant parties, organizations and stakeholders in order to build consensus, generate synergies and strengthen capacity for REDD;
   (c) support pilot programmes for REDD that take into account national and regional circumstances and directly contribute to poverty reduction, biodiversity conservation, forest protection, sustainable forest management and improved forest governance;
   (d) develop and promote best-practice principles and operational tools for the equitable sharing of costs and benefits from REDD; and
   (e) in consultation with the Chairs of IUCN's Commissions, position the Union at the forefront of international institutions seeking to ensure that initiatives providing incentives for REDD are carried out with full social safeguards to protect the interests and rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, with particular attention to more vulnerable groups and specific reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

3. REQUESTS the Director General to:
   (a) support the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group established at the CBD COP9 with a view to maximizing the synergies between biodiversity, REDD and LULUCF; and as an input to negotiations at UNFCCC COP14 in Poland (December 2008) and UNFCCC COP15 in Copenhagen (November/December 2009);
   (b) prepare a report in close consultation with IUCN Commissions (in particular the joint CEESP and WCPA Theme, TILCEPA), IUCN's members and representatives of concerned indigenous peoples and local communities, assessing the relative advantages and disadvantages, opportunities and risks of different REDD financing mechanisms, and investigating ways to ensure effective social and biodiversity safeguards, for presentation to the IUCN Council at its second meeting in 2009;
   (c) request the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) and the IUCN Environmental Law Centre (ELC) to develop a proposal for a legal instrument linking the CBD and the UNFCCC to ensure that climate solutions negotiated under the UNFCCC optimize biodiversity outcomes through ecosystem-based approaches to climate mitigation and adaptation and result in no adverse impacts on biodiversity and present the proposal at the relevant meetings of the CBD and the UNFCCC; and
(d) urge IUCN members to support the relevant CBD decisions, as well as all recommendations from deliberations from the CBD Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group, and ensure that they are reflected in the UNFCCC REDD decisions and processes. IUCN should facilitate communication on the outcomes of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group State Parties of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), and ensure that this work reflects the work already done on identifying forest areas of high conservation value, which should be protected under REDD mechanisms; and

4. URGES the Director General and Chairs of IUCN’s Commissions to harness the knowledge and skills of IUCN members, Commission members and the Secretariat to actively pursue policies and mechanisms to:

(a) secure the land and resource rights of indigenous peoples and local communities that historically held use rights on the land where the carbon is stored;

(b) ensure their free, prior and informed consent to any initiatives providing incentives for REDD on their land and/or that affect their rights; and

(c) ensure that they receive an equitable share of benefits arising from REDD (reflecting their traditional role in conserving forests) and that such benefits are equitably distributed within communities.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.
4.099 Recognition of the diversity of concepts and values of nature

CONSCIOUS that nature is a foundational concept for IUCN;

AWARE that the IUCN Mission requires the conservation of nature to be understood as an action based on the diverse visions that different living cultures have of nature;

NOTING that the concept of nature conveyed in the official languages of IUCN was shaped after the seventeenth century scientific revolution in Europe, gradually reducing the original scope from the Latin concept of 'natura' to its material dimension or component;

AWARE that a great number of the world's languages lack an exact equivalent for the concept of 'nature' that IUCN uses, and that, instead, the word or words they use include human beings, agrobiodiversity, and non-material realms, which are perceived as alive and often a more significant part of nature than their material counterparts;

UNDERSTANDING that the Cartesian distinction between material and spiritual does not exist in most cultures, where people consider that spiritual realities permeate everything and that humans, nature and the entire universe share the same material and spiritual dimensions;

NOTING that many of the concepts used instead of 'nature' are more holistic, and may be loosely translated in expressions such as 'Mother', 'Mother Earth', 'Mother who makes all things possible', 'Community of all beings', 'Source of all', 'Self-regenerating', 'Angel', or 'Spirit';

NOTING FURTHER that mainstream religions and philosophies, followed by most of humankind, have other concepts related to nature such as 'Creation', 'Samsara', 'Prakriti' or 'Shan-shui';

ACKNOWLEDGING that from all these diverse concepts of nature, flow a tremendous diversity of conservation values, ranging from intrinsic values related to sacred species, sites, landscapes, etc., to use values for livelihood, and functional values;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING that the Ethics Specialist Group of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) is currently addressing this issue;

CONCERNED about the impacts that the prevalent concept of nature conservation has already had in parts of the world, reducing the potential support for conservation from those societies that have different world views;

CONCERNED FURTHER about the impossibility of producing accurate translations for many of the IUCN documents into some of the most widely used languages of the world, which lack the equivalent of the concept of nature as it is used in IUCN; and

CONSCIOUS that respect of the rich cultural diversity conveyed by different concepts of nature and its related values is a right of concerned communities or societies;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012:

1. CALLS ON the Director General to promote understanding that nature conservation as a human action is rooted in diverse, evolving cultures and world views; and

2. REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN Commissions to work with IUCN's members to:

(a) find ways to incorporate other understandings of the human relationship with the natural world to increase intercultural efforts for nature conservation;

(b) develop appropriate guidance to fully recognize the existing diversity of concepts and values of nature, and nature conservation, where appropriate; and

(c) promote and support nature conservation actions including and reflecting practices and traditions that are rooted in culture and embody the cultural values of the diversity of peoples of the world.
State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.
4.127 Indigenous peoples’ rights in the management of protected areas fully or partially in the territories of indigenous peoples

CONSIDERING the need to harmonize, broaden, strengthen and update mechanisms and legal and institutional frameworks, in order to promote a propitious context for the involvement and participation of key actors, especially local communities and indigenous peoples, in decision making and management at all levels and the fair distribution of the costs and benefits associated with the establishment and the management of protected areas;

ASSUMING that indigenous peoples living in or near protected areas have the right to participate in their management, under conditions equal to those of the rest of the actors involved in these areas; and

CONVINCED of the need to contribute to the creation of societies consciously committed to a political environment favouring the effective management of protected areas and solution of the problems and threats they face, through the strengthening of institutions, programmes and initiatives aimed at communication, awareness, interpretation and formal and informal education, as well as through the use of appropriate means and messages for specific target audiences that contribute to a better understanding, on the part of local communities, visitors to protected areas, decision makers and society, of the importance of protected areas and their contribution to sustainable development and to the future of life on our planet;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:

URGES states to:

(a) Within a framework of cooperation and taking into account national and regional characteristics, make available the means necessary for the full exercise and effective implementation of the rights recognized in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; and

(b) In the designated protected areas fully or partially within the territories of indigenous peoples:

(i) respect the rights of these peoples, ensuring the full and effective participation of their representative organizations in making decisions on the management and protection of these areas; and

(ii) apply Article 28.1 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples which states: “Indigenous peoples have the right to redress, by means that can include restitution or, when this is not possible, just, fair and equitable compensation, for the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used, and which have been confiscated, taken, occupied, used or damaged without their free, prior and informed consent.”

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

The Statements for the record made by the State members Australia, Canada, New Zealand and United Kingdom in relation to Resolution 4.048 also apply to this Recommendation.
4.136 Biodiversity, protected areas, indigenous peoples and mining activities

RECALLING the Resolutions and Recommendations that have been adopted by Sessions of the IUCN General Assembly and World Conservation Congress:

(a) Resolution 15.18 Deep Sea Mining and Establishment of Protected Areas of the Deep Ocean adopted by the 15th IUCN General Assembly (Christchurch, 1981);

(b) Res16/11 Deep Sea Mining and Establishment of Protected Areas of the Deep Ocean and Res16/27 Christmas Island (Indian Ocean) adopted by the 16th IUCN General Assembly (Madrid, 1984);

(c) Recommendation 17.54 Mount Etna, Australia and Resolution 17.60 Carajas Pig Iron Plants, Brazil adopted by the 17th IUCN General Assembly (San Jose, 1988);


(f) Resolution 1.81 Productive Relationships between IUCN and the Private Sector and Resolution 1.82 Private Sector Financial Operations adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996);

(g) Recommendation 2.82 Protection and conservation of biological diversity of protected areas from the negative impacts of mining and exploration adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000); and

(h) Resolution 3.057 Adapting to climate change: a framework for conservation action, Resolution 3.060 Influencing private sector actions in favour of biodiversity, Resolution 3.061 IUCN’s interaction with the private sector, Resolution 3.075 Applying the precautionary principle in environmental decision making and management, Recommendation 3.082 The Extractive Industries Review and Recommendation 3.101 Advancing boreal forest conservation adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

NOTING the vision of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) strategic plan: “that society fully recognizes and supports the importance of protected areas in the 21st century by: securing key places for biological and cultural diversity, promoting equity and justice, maintaining the quality of the environment, and ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources for poverty reduction, food and water security, and the prevention of conflicts”; and

AWARE of the increased pressure placed on natural systems containing mineral resources due to an everincreasing world demand for these minerals, particularly as other sources of these resources are exhausted;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:
1. CALLS ON IUCN's State members to:
   (a) uphold the integrity of critical ecosystems, and of IUCN's Protected Area Categories in the management of the world's protected areas;
   (b) carry out a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) prior to considering any mining operation; and
   (c) establish and enforce international best practices and national laws for mining; and

2. URGES the global mining companies, including the members of the International Council for Mining and Metals (ICMM) to:
   (a) avoid mineral exploration and mining activities that will affect the long-term integrity of:
       (i) high conservation value areas (protected and not protected), critical ecosystems, watercatchment areas and biological corridors;
       (ii) food security and traditional livelihoods; and
       (iii) territories of indigenous peoples where full free prior and informed consent has not been obtained; and (b) allow access and freedom of surveillance by civil society and the press to ensure good practice.

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion.