



73rd Meeting of IUCN Council

23-25 November 2009

This Overview provides the main highlights of the Meeting as a complement to the more detailed and official minutes.

IUCN to raise global visibility to attract more funding and have greater impact to achieve its mission: President stimulates debate on 'Influence and Affluence'

In the context of Council tackling IUCN's response to important and emerging issues, IUCN President Ashok Khosla shared his vision and ideas and led discussions within Council on the concrete action necessary in order to leave a legacy to the next Council in 2012.

In the face of the threats to biodiversity which are growing at an unprecedented rate, while the funds for IUCN's work are rapidly becoming harder to generate, Council was conscious that, beyond its scientific rigour and manifest impact - for which it commands high credibility and respect among those who know of our work - IUCN will have to engage a much larger universe of people as partners and/or supporters in order to achieve its ultimate mission. While its messages have to be heard and heeded by decision-makers at the highest levels, and to be acted upon by individuals and communities at the very grassroots, the Union will also need sufficient resources to enable it to carry out (or cause to be carried out) activities, not only on a much larger scale, but that are also at the cutting edge and deal with emerging issues. There was discussion of "scaling up", i.e. becoming a bigger organization, as well as "scaling out", i.e. to get others to implement action or to cause action to happen, and it was clear that IUCN needed to do both.

At an informal evening session on Monday 23 November, the President led a robust presentation along with an external company *Hi Entertainment*, of one example of generating sizeable funding and impact on a global scale. The presentation outlined the possible creation of an IUCN subsidiary 'Terraviva Foundation' to head a worldwide conservation marketing campaign aiming to reach 1 billion people in 5 years through a combination of events: a sports awards ceremony, a 24 hour music concert, a business scientist and NGO week and a youth camp. Over 5 years this would aim to raise EUR 120 million. This work would constitute part of the Secretariat's fundraising/communications strategy. Councillors gave a range of feedback with great encouragement for the innovative approach and support for scaling-out, noting however substantive issues to be addressed and requesting that the work – and eventual message being communicated - stay true to the IUCN Mission.

Council encouraged the IUCN Director General Julia Marton-Lefèvre to continue systematically developing new initiatives aimed at raising the visibility of IUCN among various constituencies and evolving innovative approaches to mobilise funds from new sources for all Members and components of the Union. She will be assisted by a working group composed of Council and Staff.

A selection of the slides from the President's presentation are available for use by any interested IUCN Member or constituent: membership@iucn.org



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2012 World Conservation Congress: On the road to Jeju, Republic of Korea

Jeju, Republic of Korea will host the next World Conservation Congress in 2012. The official announcement was made at a ceremony on Thursday 26 November, in Gland. Council recognized that the choice had been difficult as it had received two excellent proposals for hosting the 2012 Congress from the Korean and Mexican governments. The exact Congress dates (October 2012) will be established by the Director General soon.

“Not only does Jeju have sound experience in organizing large, complex events, it also has a strong environmental track record”, said IUCN President Ashok Khosla



International Convention Centre and Mt. Halla, Jeju .

The International Convention Centre (ICC) is located in the Jungmun Resort Complex in Jeju, an island to the south of the Republic of Korea’s mainland. The state-of-the-art facility is set in a well-preserved natural environment and has committed to the “Green Convention Practice” by adopting renewable energy, electronic banners and recycled materials. The IUCN National Committee of the Republic of Korea is actively involved in joint projects with IUCN.

Jeju is home to UNESCO World Heritage Sites Mount Hallasan and Seongsan Ilchulbong and Ramsar wetland sites, each with their own unique ecosystems. Excellent facilities at the Congress venue, generous financial coverage, a comprehensive volunteer recruitment plan, a strong network of IUCN Members and grass root organizations supporting the bid, favourable accommodation and visa facilitation, all helped secure the final decision.

It was the first time IUCN had implemented a competitive Congress venue selection process involving detailed on-site assessment of the candidate countries’ responsiveness to the criteria of the pre-established Statement of Requirements which included: the qualifications, experience, economic advantages and ability to mobilize the resources of the country; the country’s technical approach to providing the required services; and the commitment to social and environmental practices.



ICC Jeju



*Director General hands certificate
to Republic of Korea
Environment Minister Lee*



Mt. Halla, Jeju

Five new Councillors

Since the 72nd Meeting of Council, four additional Councillors have been appointed as provided for in Article 28 of the Statutes. In August, Dr. R Yarrow was appointed for the Oceania Region following a resignation.



Prof. Ma Keping
China



Prof. Seong-II Kim
Republic of Korea



Dr. Fatou Sarr
Senegal



Dr. Johan Schaar
Sweden



Dr. Robin Yarrow
Fiji

Role of IUCN Council:

- Set strategic direction and policy guidance for the work of the Union in line with decisions of the World Congress.
- Provide oversight and general control of the performance of the Union as a whole and of the Director General, encouraging coherence among its component parts.
- Fulfill its fiduciary responsibilities to the Members of the Union and render account to them on the achievement of the Union's objectives.
- Determine guidelines, statements and reports on important issues and communicate these to IUCN and the world community.

IUCN welcomes 18 new Members

Council approved 18 new Members: Caucasus Environmental NGO Network (CENN), Georgia; Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR); Indonesia; EOG (European Outdoor Group) Association for Conservation; Switzerland; Foundation for the Development of a National System of Protected Areas (FUNDESNAP); Bolivia; French Association of Zoos; France; Institute for Nature Conservation in Albania (INCA); Albania; Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Protection; Montenegro; National Park of the Banc d'Arguin (PNBA), Mauritania; National University of Chilecito, Argentina; Nazca Institute for Marine Research, Ecuador, Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation; Monaco; Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes (PEFC Council); Switzerland; Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE); France; Southern African Endogenous Development Programme (SAEDP); South Africa; the Southern African Natural Products Trade Association (Phyto Trade Africa), Strategic Development and Environmental Monitoring Programs (PRODEMA); Bolivia, the Sur Futuro Foundation, Dominican Republic; and TERI's (The Energy Research Institute) Forestry and Biodiversity Group; India.

IUCN Commissions

Reports for the six Commissions were received in advance and verbal presentations were provided by the Chairs of the CEC, SSC and WCPA. IUCN's other 3 Commissions will give their reports at the 74th Meeting of Council. Council noted its appreciation for the breadth and depth of work being undertaken by the Commissions.



Report of the Director General: Linking all strands of the “Triple Helix” into the One Programme

Setting a new precedent, Julia Marton-Lefèvre presented an extensive written report in advance covering the activities of the entire Secretariat since the February Meeting of Council. This was complemented with an oral presentation in plenary and an active questions and answers session.

Noting that the Union was involved in a process of organizational development and change, the Director General emphasized that many of her efforts concentrated on ensuring a seamless transition towards the One Programme and results-based management. Focussing on IUCN's work in its Regions, the Director General commented that a huge amount of work and initiatives were underway throughout the regions, many – but by no means all – concerning the upcoming UNFCCC COP15 in Copenhagen. She provided in depth reporting on the thematic programme areas, on the follow up from Barcelona, the preparations for the next World Conservation Congress, the initial mapping of Members, the consolidated fundraising work and the new information technology systems, including the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP).

During discussion time, the need for more closely engaging with National Committees was highlighted.

Request a copy of the Director General's report from: membership@iucn.org More detailed information can also be found on the IUCN website, in IUCN newsletters and the publication “Results of the IUCN Programme 2005-2008”.

One Programme

The ‘One Programme’ approved by the 2008 World Conservation Congress describes the conservation results that IUCN aims to achieve globally between 2009 and 2012, i.e. the practical ways in which IUCN pursues its vision of “A just world that values and conserves nature”.

It is a framework for the more detailed results-based plans of IUCN's Commissions and Secretariat working with and on behalf of Members to deliver IUCN's mission. These Component Programme Plans (see www.iucn.org/programme) provide concrete entry points for Members to engage in joint action with IUCN.

Delivery of the One Programme by the Union

On the recommendation of the Governance Committee, Council agreed to take a two-track approach to its work on enhancing Members' and constituents' engagement in the delivery of the Union's One Programme. In the short term (2009-2010) the focus will be placed on implementing the Recommendations of the 2004 – 2008 Council Working Group on the One Programme (2008 Congress paper CGR/2008/20) to fully utilise the respective capacities of the Members, National and Regional Committees, Commissions and Secretariat in the implementation of the IUCN Programme. In the longer-term (post 2012 Congress) the aim is for Members and Commissions to be established more firmly at the centre of the Union's work, with reforms to be approved by Congress in 2012.

Updated information on IUCN Programme implementation can be found at: http://iucn.org/about/work/global_programme/

Policy and programme highlights

Key items presented included the work undertaken in relation to the UNFCCC, in particular the policy position papers and plans for the upcoming COP15 in Copenhagen, December 2009.

The position papers for UNFCCC COP15 together with more detailed information about IUCN at Copenhagen COP15 can be found at: <http://iucn.org/unfccc/events/copenhagen/>

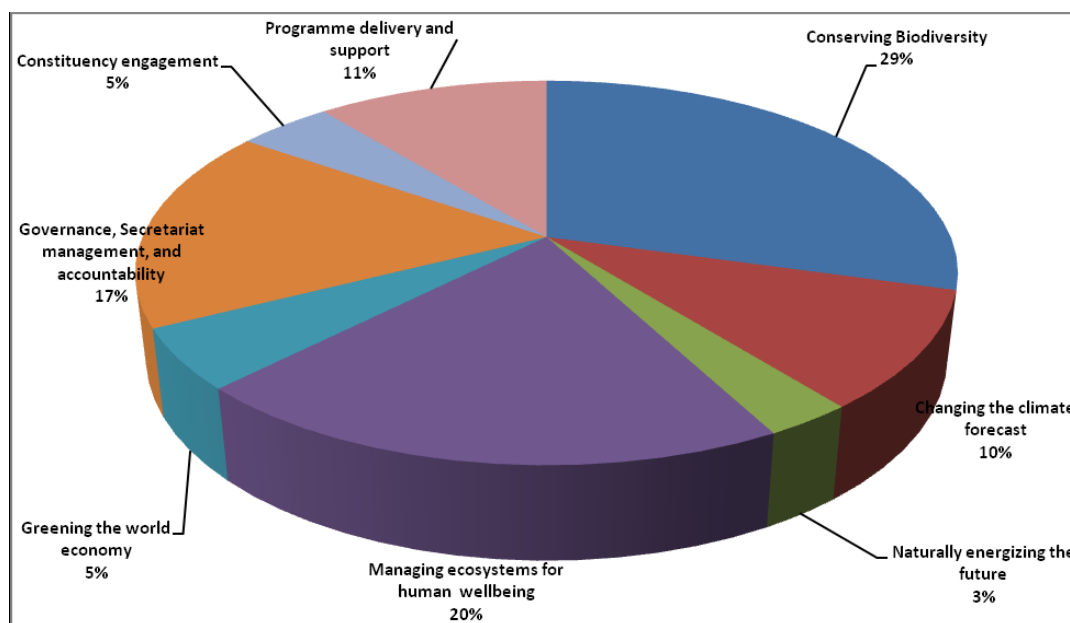
It was noted that the climate policy strategy for the UNFCCC was underpinned by broader programmatic work on climate change, which generated lessons learned for IUCN's policy work and would complement the present policy strategy once the new climate change agreement has been adopted and its implementation phase has started.

Until the 2012 Congress, and with the assistance of its task forces, Council will continue to focus on climate change, private sector engagement, implementation of Congress resolutions, gender and biodiversity, and IPBES (Intergovernmental Science Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services).

2010-2011 Work Plan and the 2010 Budget

On the joint recommendation of its Finance and Audit and its Programme and Policy Committees, the Council approved the 2010-2011 Work Plan covering the second and third years of implementation of the IUCN Programme and Operational Plan for 2009-12, approved by the World Conservation Congress in Barcelona (Spain, October 2008) as well as the 2010 Budget.

The budgeted expenditure for 2010 is CHF 135.6 million (2009: CHF 145 million), comprising CHF 64.7 million (2009: CHF 65.6 million) of Secretariat expenditure and CHF 70.9 million (2009: CHF 79.4 million) of project activities. This represents an overall decline of 6% over the 2009 forecast primarily due to a decline in IUCN's project portfolio, mainly a consequence of the tighter funding environment resulting from the global financial crisis.



Total draft budget for 2010 by programme and operational area (total: CHF 135.6m)

Governance reforms

On the recommendation of its Governance Committee, Council took a number of steps to improve its effectiveness and the efficiency of its meetings. Terms of Reference were approved for the Bureau of Council – which is mainly an instrument for Council to ensure urgent governance decisions are taken in between Council meetings, thereby creating more space on the agenda of the regular Council meetings for discussion of matters of more strategic importance for the Union.

Bureau will henceforth include the Chairs of all four standing committees of Council. As of 2011, it is envisaged that Bureau will also comprise two Vice-Presidents and two, instead of four, elected Councillors as is presently the case.

Transparency of Council

In follow up to the 2008 Congress resolution, and on the recommendation of the Governance Committee, Council approved concrete measures to increase transparency and fulfil its role effectively. These actions highlight the role of Council members in informing and obtaining feedback and input from IUCN Members, National and Regional Committees, and Regional Fora on global decision-making on the basis of the provisional agendas for upcoming Council meetings, and in reporting and promoting the results of Council meetings to IUCN Members. Documentation will be made available to Members via the Members' Portal both in advance of Council and following the Council Meeting following proactive notice by email.

IUCN Members will find this Overview together with the decisions of 73rd Council on the Members Portal.

Next meeting of Council

The next meeting of Council will take place from **2 to 4 June 2010** in Gland, Switzerland.

Composition of Council 2008-2012

PRESIDENT

Dr Ashok KHOSLA, India*

TREASURER

Mr Kurt RAMIN, Germany*

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SWISS CONFEDERATION

Dr. Willy GEIGER, Switzerland

AFRICA

Ms Yolán Friedmann, South Africa*
Dr Brahim Haddane, Morocco
Dr Hillary M. Masundire, Botswana*

MESO AND SOUTH AMERICA

Dr Cláudio Maretti, Brasil
Sr Miguel Pellerano, Argentina
Sra Zuleika Pinzón, Panama*

NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Mr George Greene, Canada*
Dr Russell Mittermeier, USA, **VP**
Dr Spencer Thomas, Grenada

SOUTH AND EAST ASIA

Dr Arzu Rana Deuba, Nepal
Mr Hiroharu Koike, Japan
Mr Mahfuz Ullah, Bangladesh*

WEST ASIA

Dr Ali Darwish, Lebanon*
Mr Javed Jabbar, Pakistan, **VP**
Mr Mohammad Shahbaz, Jordan

OCEANIA

Prof. Brendan Mackey, Australia
Ms Diana Shand, New Zealand, **VP**
Dr Robin Yarrow, Fiji

EAST EUROPE NORTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

Dr Amirkhan Amirkhanov, Russia
Mr Vilmos Kiszal, Hungary
Prof. Kalev Sepp, Estonia, **VP**

WEST EUROPE

Ms Marina von Weissenberg, Finland*
Dr Hans de longh, Netherlands*
Dr Christophe Lefebvre, France

APPOINTED COUNCILLORS

Prof. Keping Ma, China
Prof. Seong-Il Kim, Republic of Korea
Dr Fatou Sarr, Senegal
Dr Johan Schaar, Sweden

COMMISSION CHAIRS

Mr Piet Wit, The Netherlands,
Commission on Ecosystem Management

Mr Keith Wheeler, USA, Commission on
Education and Communication

Ms Aroha Te Pareake Mead, New
Zealand, Commission on Environmental
Economic and Social Policy

Ms. Sheila Raquel Abed, Paraguay,
Commission on Environmental Law

Dr Simon Stuart, United Kingdom,
Species Survival Commission

Mr. Nikita Lopoukhine, Canada, World
Commission on Protected Areas*

COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE CHAIRS

Governance Committee:
George Greene (Chair), Vilmos Kiszal
(Vice-Chair)

Constituency Committee:
Yolan Friedmann and Miguel Pellerano
(Co-Chairs)

Finance and Audit Committee:
Spencer Thomas and Hillary Masundire
(Co-Chairs)

Programme and Policy Committee:
Hans de longh and Brendan Mackey
(Co-Chairs)

Gender and Biodiversity Task Force:
Arzu Deuba (Chair)

Private Sector Task Force:
Diana Shand (Chair)

Congress Resolutions Task Force:
Hans de longh (Chair)

Climate Change Task Force:
Brendan Mackey (Chair)

IPBES Task Force:
Marina von Weissenberg (Chair)

VP indicates the 4 Vice Presidents

*** Members of Bureau as of 25.11. 2009**



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