



**IUCN West Asia/Middle East (WAME) Regional Office**  
**IUCN WEST ASIA REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**TERMS OF REFERENCE**  
**AS OF 13 MAY 2008**



## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### **Background**

The Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) was initially established to provide advice of IUCN WAME and to broaden the knowledge base available to the Secretariat. The original members were selected from various institutions and professional backgrounds.

These Terms of Reference will be approved by members before Congress 2008.

### **1. Purpose of RAC**

To provide advice, monitor and assess IUCN WAME programmes and IUCN West Asia Regional Committee (WARC). To facilitate IUCN's networking objectives where appropriate and serve members and commissions by broadening the knowledge base available to the IUCN components. RAC will also facilitate collaboration with national committees where these exist.

Specifically RAC will:

- i) Assist in prioritizing WAME programmes
- ii) Bring to the attention of IUCN WAME RO new concepts and ideas in order to provide leadership in this changing world
- iii) Support WAME's networking initiatives
- iv) Provide advice on fundraising and support the implementation of programmes and projects in the region

### **2. Accountability and Relationship with IUCN Structures**

The RAC is self-governing although it works in partnership with the Secretariat, Members and Commissions to co-ordinate programme development and implementation.

The RAC shall adopt or pursue policies that are consistent with the vision, mission and policies of IUCN.

### **3. Membership**

The RAC shall consist of not more than 9 (nine) elected members in addition to Chairs of National Committees (the National Committee Chairs should not vote). Four of these members will be nominated at Regional Conservation Fora from amongst the elected national committee chairs. The RAC will co-opt up to 3 representatives from among commission members. The three commission representatives should be either Commission Chair or his/her representative from the region in order to ensure that the RAC can provide effective advice and support to IUCN WAME towards the implementation of the regional programmes.



In the event of a member retiring between membership meetings the RAC may co-opt a replacement to be presented at a subsequent membership meeting. Selection of RAC members should take into consideration gender equity, discipline and skills.

The RAC shall invite the Director General or his/her representative to attend its meetings

All Regional Councilors in the West Asia region are invited to attend as ex-officio members of the RAC.

#### **4. Term of Office**

Each RAC member shall serve for an initial term between World Conservation Congresses. At the end of each cycle, a minimum one third of the RAC members shall retire.

#### **5. Chairperson**

The Chairperson shall elect from amongst its members a chairperson at regional conservation fora in mid-sessional periods, and should serve for the whole intersessional term.

The RAC will determine its modus operandi and place of meetings.

#### **6. Frequency of Meetings**

The RAC shall meet at least once a year making use of regional and global events. Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the RAC or the Regional Director.

To hold the RAC meeting, the corum should be 50% including the Chair of the committee.

The RAC shall send a report on its activities to all regional IUCN members, the West Asia Regional Committee (WARC), the Director General, the Council and the Commission Chairs.

The RAC comments and reports shall be posted on IUCN WAME website in both languages.

#### **7. Costs**

IUCN WAME shall meet all transport and accommodation costs for attendance. In addition each RAC member will be provided an honorarium to cover meals and other incidental costs.

The RAC will not impose financial obligations or liabilities upon IUCN in accordance with Article 71, paragraph (a) and (b) of the IUCN statutes



## **8. Media & Communications**

The RAC shall, if it issues statements relevant to the objectives of IUCN, do so solely on behalf of the Committee and shall not commit IUCN to any financial, legal or other obligations.

## **Disqualification**

- Any RAC member who misses two consecutive meetings will automatically cease to be a member.
- Membership may also be terminated through resignation.

## **9. Review**

These terms of reference will be reviewed from time to time as determined by the Membership Forums, RAC and Regional Director. Any change shall be submitted to members in the region for approval.