

# **WCPA STEERING COMMITTEE**

**October 19 to 22, 2005**

**Geelong, Australia**

## **FINAL Minutes**

### **PARTICIPANTS**

21 persons from 15 countries attended the WCPA Steering Committee (SC). The full participant list is outlined in Annex A.

WCPA Chair, Nik Lopoukhine noted apologies from:

Harald Plachter who has resigned as Vice Chair, World Heritage.  
Bud Ehler who is also looking to stand down as Vice Chair, Marine.  
John Hough  
Sonia Rigueira  
Mohammed Sulayem

Bryce Sinsin and Uday Sharma & were unable to obtain visas so could not attend.

### **INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**

#### **Introductory comments from the WCPA Chair (Nik Lopoukhine)**

WCPA Chair, Nik Lopoukhine welcomed participants to this second meeting of the 2005-8 WCPA Steering Committee. He noted the effective work done on the WCPA/PPA Strategic Plan at the first WCPA SC meeting in April 2005 in Gland and his hope for a similarly productive session here in Geelong. Nik offered through Geoff Vincent and his team, his thanks and gratitude to Parks Victoria for their financial and other support to the staging of the SC Meeting.

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING**

The WCPA Steering Committee meeting had the following objectives:

1. Finalizing and adopting the Strategic Plan.
2. Focusing on action in key strategic areas and agreeing the way forward.
3. Focusing on Business Planning and the imperative to develop a realistic and fundable programme for the Commission.
4. Address on going WCPA structural issues; agreeing terms of reference for Task Forces and addressing gaps.

## **PRESENTATION BY PARKS VICTORIA**

Geoff Vincent provided a presentation on Parks Victoria (PV) as host for the WCPA SC meeting.

Questions highlighted a number of interesting aspects of the PV system:

1. The fact that PV receives a significant part of its budget (60m AUD) from a levy on all households to cover Metropolitan Parks.
2. PV manages the full spectrum of PAs from urban to rural, terrestrial to marine. This is seen as an overall benefit in combining environmental and customer service organisational cultures.
3. PV has set 2010 targets for the provision of open space for Melbourne and a comprehensive, representative and adequate PA state-wide system.
4. PV places a strong emphasis on understanding and nurturing community values for PAs. They conduct 2 yearly community attitude surveys.
5. PV has created 21 MPAs (12 MPAs, 9 Marine Sanctuaries) simultaneously (over 3 years) through a consultative process and under singular legislation.

## **MINUTES OF WCPA SC MEETING OF APRIL 2005**

### Corrections

The SC reviewed the April minutes suggesting a number of corrections.

### **Action agreed:**

**PPA to incorporate corrections and re-circulate April Minutes.**

### Actions arising

Nik advised he has followed up with 80% of Task Force leaders regarding the decisions of the April SC meeting. The SC noted that further decisions will affect TFs from this meeting and that these should also be relayed to them. The need to separate governance from TF activity was also noted with a suggestion that a future SC meeting focus on how to best support TF work in the context of the strategic directions (SDs).

### **Action agreed:**

**Nik to follow up with remaining TF leaders on SC decisions.**

SC recalled the target of 10% of WCPA membership to be young professionals. The problem of no age field on the WCPA Membership Form was noted. SC wished to record their appreciation for Delwyn Dupuis' efforts and hard work in renewing membership so effectively.

**Action agreed:**

**SC Members to send details to PPA (Peter & Delwyn) of additional young professional members brought forward. Peter to fix problem of no age field on the form so that a benchmark can be established to measure progress on the target. Peter to relay vote of thanks to Delwyn.**

The SC noted those items from the April 2005 SC meeting that will be again discussed in the agenda of this meeting.

It was noted that some Vice Chairs have established list servers for their members or networks.

The proposed review of existing partnerships and memoranda of understanding (MoUs) still to be done.

**Action agreed:**

**WCPA Chair & Head PPA to undertake review.**

**EPP/PALNET**

Keith Williams (IUCN Asia) presented on EPP. Silvio Olivieri (seconded to IUCN) presented on PALNet. PALNet is fully integrated with IUCN's Knowledge Management Strategy and the Conservation Commons plus at a lower level WCLN. The aim is to develop interoperability between different databases – WDPA, SIS, ECOLEX etc.

The presentations stressed the importance of SC and network support, interaction and critique with EPP/PALNet. SC Members were urged to post case study and other relevant material on the PALNet site. Key questions for EPP included the value of the field learning sites (FLSs) and how to progress the second round of workshops involving Field Learning Sites. Key questions for PALNet included staffing for PALNet; the identification of a host organisation; decentralizing the process and mobilising the learning network; ensuring that learning theory informs approaches and that the system responds to identified needs of the network?

The SC noted the following:

1. Upgrade work on PALNet has been 90% complete and will improve the site's features and user-friendliness.
2. Rich work and active networks have arisen from the FLSs, however, this has been successful when this catalyzes the existing network to add value.
3. Need to integrate/coordinate with other similar IUCN initiatives like the WCLN as these networks are very challenging to sustain. Other tools such as WCMC's search tools need to be integrated.
4. There is a need to share FLS benefits outside of the host regions. Active involvement of the Regional VCs is the key to this. FLSs are laboratories to experiment with innovative solutions for PA issues.

5. There is a need to allow people to become familiar with PALNet and to have confidence that it is a valuable tool with quality content which connects people and helps to solve problems. PALNet needs to provide a gateway to our active and successful list serves.
6. PALNet must be demand driven and we should periodically conduct simple user surveys. The audience is principally PA managers and other professionals, but it is also useful to others e.g. academic institutions. It needs to be backed with a good marketing and communication strategy.
7. There is a need to separate PALNet from EPP in terms of future fundraising.
8. Regional VCs should assist with identifying regional experts for inclusion on PALNet.
9. The English language bias should be addressed as soon as possible. Posted information should be in different languages.
10. The EPP Steering Committee should review the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of FLS workshops to ensure they are effective given the state of development of the PALNet system globally.

Nik Lopoukhine concluded that PALNet:

1. Remained too top-down and insufficiently demand-driven.
2. Was missing a crucial knowledge management focal point to direct traffic and facilitate sharing.
3. There had been a lack of IUCN/WCPA ownership of the initiative which needs to be addressed for the project to be successful.

## **WCPA/PPA STRATEGIC PLAN**

Trevor Sandwidth provided a presentation to recap the previous SC meeting's discussions/work on the Strategic Plan, noting the overall scope of the plan; the four Strategic Directions which emerged and the link to Regional priorities; the objectives, targets, actions, delivery mechanisms, outputs and products identified for each of these.

The SC sessions on the Strategic Plan aimed to:

1. Review the plan at a high level
2. Agree on the key actions for each strategic direction
3. Adopt the Strategic Plan
4. Consider the process of completion of the Thematic Action Plans
5. Consider the process of completion of the Regional Action Plans
6. Implementation & review

### Review the scope & priorities (high level):

Nik Lopoukhine clarified that he views the 4 Strategic Directions as cross cutting responsibilities which will drive WCPA's work rather than something 'stove-piped' under individual leads. Nevertheless there is a need for a custodian Vice-Chair for each Strategic Direction. The following is proposed:

1. Conserving Biodiversity (Graeme Worboys to take this on progressively and subject to is other commitments)
2. Science, Knowledge & Management (Marc Hockings)
3. Capacity Development & Awareness (John Hough)
4. Governance, equity & livelihoods (Ashish Kothari/Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend pending replacement)

While noting that the Strategic Plan provides a conceptual framework that extends beyond only those things that can be funded, the SC nonetheless recognized the importance of close integration between the Plan and the Business Plan to ensure that proposals are feasible and fundable.

SC agreed that Regions need to be integrated earlier in the document not as an afterthought. Regions need to be meshed with Strategic Directions at the outset.

### Revisions to the Strategic Plan:

Trevor Sandwidth led a process to review the Strategic Plan and seek input from the members of the SC. Leads from the April SC working groups presented their assessment of the changes made since then. Interventions were taken and amendments/edits incorporated into a final revision of the SP to be adopted.

**The SC adopted the Strategic Plan subject to amendments and directions suggested.**

### **Action agreed:**

**WCPA Executive to make amendments and circulate final Strategic Plan to WCPA membership and IUCN generally.**

## **REGIONAL/THEMATIC PRIORITIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

SC reviewed Regional priorities against the Strategic Directions. An introductory presentation was given by Roger Crofts to illustrate the approach taken in Europe.

Nik Lopoukhine identified 3 factors for success in pursuing Regional implementation of the Strategic Plan:

1. Involvement of IUCN membership, national or regional IUCN Committees, Councillors and Secretariat in development & roll out.
2. Building relationships in the Region and tailoring objectives to regional realities.
3. Trying to secure strong organizational backup

Regional VCs considered the above 3 factors and gave feedback on the way in which the region's can help to implement the four Strategic Directions. Regional VCs are expected to develop Regional Action Plans.

It was noted that Regions should identify their strengths and capacities to deliver against the Plan such that a matrix of Regions against Strategic Direction can be developed.

#### North Eurasia

- The Russian GEF/UNDP project will focus on PA training and best practice therefore making a significant contribution to SD3.

#### Australia/NZ

- Relationship with broader IUCN problematic due to lack of IUCN Secretariat Office. Opening of IUCN Fiji Office may be an advantage in future but of limited support now.
- 3 Regional Councillors are active and vocal but they are occupied across a broad spectrum of work.
- The IUCN National Committee is almost dysfunctional and unfunded.
- The challenge is to rebuild WCPA relevance and overcome the attitude that all is OK in Australia.
- There remains a potential for conflict among NGOs.
- The RVC will be assisted by a committee involving many WCPA TF leaders.
- The challenge is to take the excellent models in Australia/New Zealand and share them elsewhere.

Possible SD Priorities for the region are:

1. The completion of the regional PA systems;
2. A focus on marine to implement CBD goals including High Seas MPAs.

#### South East Asia

- The relationship with IUCN is based on the link to the Regional Office through Keith Williams.
- There is a generally weak presence of IUCN members in broader Asia. Lacking an Executive Committee and structure to support the Regional VC.
- There are limited resources in the Region but many organizations are active so there is a need to improve communication & coordination.
- Noting that GEF will fund country-driven initiatives, there is a need to bring together countries in the region to support funding proposals.
- The Regional VC is planning to convene a small group to review the regional strategy and the region's focus.

Possible SD priorities (subject to consultation with WCPA members):

1. Marine - ASEAN action plan in place.
2. SD2 on application of Categories
3. Selected aspects of PA capacity development
4. SD4 – Governance – participatory management of PAs

#### South America

- There are three main regional imperatives:
  1. Strengthening WCPA;
  2. Engaging WCPA members;
  3. Improving coordination with IUCN South America (SUR).

Proposed actions include:

1. Revitalizing WCPA

2. Better engagement with WCPA Thematic Programmes and Task Forces
  3. Building a WCPA web site used for the members
  4. Developing joint work plans between WCPA members and IUCN Members consistent with WCPA SP and IUCN Programme
  5. Conducting Forums with SUR
- The Regional VC (Carmen) is organising a committee structure and country WCPA focal points which have been largely put in place. In addition she is inputting to Regional IUCN Members Meetings and proposing a 2nd Latin American Congress on PAs.

Possible SD Priorities:

1. SD1 – ecosystem approach and corridors; gap analysis and regional priorities; joint actions with Ramsar; MPAs; Regional database on PAs
2. SD2 – management effectiveness (Andes focus) - assessing different methodologies; mapping infrastructure development project impacts on PAs
3. SD3 – social impacts of PAs; Coordinating and synthesizing training & qualifications for PA practitioners;
4. SD4 – governance approaches and testing application and effectiveness; poverty reduction & PAs; indigenous peoples & PAs; participatory PA management.

Caribbean

- The relationship with IUCN in the Caribbean is non-existent.
- There is no IUCN programme for insular Caribbean although IUCN US is designated as a focal point.
- Links have been established with IUCN's work on Islands and in Latin America.
- A WCPA strategic action plan for region was developed for region in 2003 but little has happened to implement it.

Possible SD Priorities:

1. Climate change and adaptation.
  2. Building the global system and networks of PAs.
  3. Management plans and management effectiveness
  4. Sustainable financing.
  5. Equity and people in PAs.
  6. Capacity building & training.
  7. Linkages – land/seascapes.
  8. Building partnerships across language barriers.
- On the organizational approach there has been very little action for WCPA in the last 15 years due to resource constraints and competing interests. Key question is what are the realistic elements of the SP which can be taken forward?
  - Regional CV (Floyd) is proposing a small project team to refine the development of proposals.

Central America

- There is a very strong IUCN regional office (ORMA), well engaged in PAs but not well linked to WCPA.
- IUCN is also looked upon as competition for resources.
- Existing WCPA members tended to be older.
- The Regional VC (Eduard) has received a poor response from existing members and there is a poor understanding of the benefits of membership.

#### Possible SD Priorities:

1. Coordinating efforts across the region
  2. Focus on WCLN and learning – capacity building
  3. EPP project through the FLS
  4. Promoting the ecosystem approach
  5. Support to PALNet
  6. Links between development & conservation
- On the organisational approach – funding to bring people together is a constraint so there is a challenge to convene members. The challenge lay in how to reactivate WCPA membership across the region – old and new members.

#### North America

##### Possible SD Priorities:

1. SD1 – MPAs – building MPA Networks; mountain PAs and connectivity (large scale conservation initiatives).
  2. SD2 – global change science – including climate change but also social change.
  3. SD3 – capacity development through things like CIPAM; tapping into tertiary institutions; young professionals; sustainable financing and helping to tap into US donors.
- Regional CV (Dave) is still to consult with members to develop a workplan. The presence of IUCN Offices in US and Canada should assist the Commission's work in the Region but interactions have been limited to controversial PA issues.
  - Regional VC proposing a small 3-person committee to develop a work plan. Proposing a very tight focus on a few important issues.

#### **Action agreed:**

**WCPA Executive to provide a matrix of themes against regions to Regional VCs for completion. The matrix will provide the basis for measuring performance.**

**Regional VCs not present at the meeting to be requested by WCPA Chair, at the time these minutes are circulated, to respond to the three questions posed above so allowing the matrix to be completed**

## **COMMUNICATION**

#### Parks & WCPA Newsletter:

Noting that communication is broader than our newsletters, web sites and mail outs, Penny Figgis and Dave Harmon presented their analysis of publication/distribution costs for Parks and the Newsletter.

The SC noted the following:

1. Despite the differences between WCPA and George Wright Society there are some significant cost issues implicit in the WCPA mail-outs.
2. Parks was noted as one of the flagship products for WCPA, along with the Best Practice Guidelines.

3. It is important to balance the free distribution of information against costs. The preference was to trim costs rather than consider charging for these publications, given previous feedback from members.
4. SC suspects the information is going to the wrong people.
5. Noting the decision to go from 3 to 2 issues of Parks per annum will save costs.
6. Newsletter often arrives late and is of limited use. Trying to align Newsletter, Parks and BPGs results in additional delays.
7. There are numerous benefits to making the Newsletter electronic only. SC agreed to go to quarterly eNewsletters in future.
8. Investigate feasibility of introducing a low level subscription fee recognising the issues of cross Commission consistency and the option of a sliding scale to accommodate developing countries. A further option may be to at least cover the mailing costs if not the cost of the publication.

**Action agreed:**

**PPA to seek cost savings by initially discussing options with Paul Goriup.**

**PPA to change Newsletter to quarterly electronic only.**

**Electronic Newsletter should provide provision for an immediate participant contribution to the next Newsletter via email.**

PPA/WCPA Communications Strategy:

The SC recognized that there is still a need to develop an overall communication strategy for WCPA.

For the strategy we need to think laterally beyond paper publications to influence politicians and other decision makers e.g. through ministerial field visits; high level roundtables and forums; recruiting political WCPA members etc.

Agreed that some work to promote the broader values of PAs is a positive idea.

**Action agreed:**

**Trevor/Penny/Dave – agreed to work on a draft Communication Strategy for the next SC meeting.**

WCPA in Action:

The SC was updated on proposals to renew the WCPA in Action publication which outlines WCPA's activities and strengths.

SC agreed on the need for this but that the new version should be more dynamic, making the case for PAs and less about internal messages of the current version.

The SC were positive regarding the PA Fundraising Folder which is focused on investing in IUCN's work on PAs but which provides some good simple text and design. Agreed this could be a good starting point.

**Action agreed:**

**Penny/Trevor/Dave to contact PPA to pursue input into the WCPA in Action. Nik to contact CEC to establish collaboration on the communication strategy.**

**IUCN COUNCIL**

Nik gave an update of the last IUCN Council meeting noting:

1. Commission Chairs met prior to Council to discuss synergies between Commissions and to make the case to Council on the values of Commissions.
2. Clarified expectations of Commission Chairs and expectations of the Secretariat in delivering the 'One Programme'. A meeting in Feb 96 will further this process.
3. Nik is the liaison point among the Chairs.
4. An analysis of IUCN resolutions affecting Commissions not yet done.
5. Web-based membership system still to be developed.
6. The far-reaching Knowledge Management Strategy initiative was presented.
7. Noting that the Council is working very effectively with open dialogue.
8. Noting the unresolved issue of IUCN Presidents' interests and the consequences. Sub committee will review this.
9. The IUCN President accommodated a good period of time on the agenda for 3 Commissions to report which was very positively received.
10. A 10% increase in the COF was achieved.
11. Nik is accountable for the Commission's performance so needs support in reporting perhaps through a template for the SC to assist him in this.
12. Next Council meeting in May 2006.

SC discussed the issue of IUCN's engagement with the private sector and the issue of the IUCN President's connections with the private sector. The SC raised potential concern with IUCN's association with Alcoa.

It was agreed that this is potentially the most divisive issue for conservationists worldwide and that other conservation organisations have developed guidelines which filter engagement. Noting there are pros and cons of engagement.

The SC agreed that the conditions of any partnership should be transparent and clear on expectations.

**Action agreed:**

**WCPA Chair to gather information on what is being done on engagement with the private sector to consider a WCPA response. Chair to write to IUCN DG to ascertain the status of the Alcoa agreement with respect to consultation.**

**BUSINESS PLANNING**

Peter Shadie presented to the SC on the status of PPA/WCPA Business Planning.

The SC noted the following:

1. General support for the approach proposed to develop a generic Fundraising Folder and template which all WCPA SC members can use in their fundraising efforts.
2. WCPA Members should not be hampered in their fundraising by having to go through IUCN centrally, however, coordination is crucial. Peter Shadie is the focal point on fundraising in PPA and should be advised of any proposals or planned donor approaches.
3. IUCN's professional fundraising support should be enhanced.
4. Support for identifying 6 flagship proposals, however, others are of equal importance to progress. Three level structure in the Business Plan should be removed whilst retaining the flagship proposals.

**Action agreed:**

**Peter to work with Trevor on a 3-way matrix to harmonize the Strategic Plan, Business Plan proposals and Regional priorities. Peter to revise Business Plan taking on board comments.**

**WCPA MARINE**

Graeme Kelleher presented to the SC on a range of marine issues.

Future options & approach

Graeme K – outlined the history of WCPA Marine and its structure which involved regional marine working groups which has now broken down. He noted the history of development of the 4 volume MPA publication including current proposals to fundraise for the revision of this.

Noting the need to replace Bud Ehler as Chair WCPA.

Outlining the imperative and challenges with creating High Seas MPAs based on CBD and UNCLOS obligations and RFMOs (Regional Fisheries Management Organisations) which bring nations together on collaborative management of fisheries resources. The proposed work of the High Seas MPA Task Force was outlined.

Emphasized the need to adjust WCPA Strategic Plan targets to 2012 instead of 2013.

Graeme invited any Regional VCs with interest to set up a marine working group to deal with land & sea issues. Pledges of support were received from Regional VCs Australia/NZ; Europe; South East Asia; Caribbean and Central America to establish marine groups. South America and North Eurasia agreed to investigate the feasibility of this.

Pew Charitable Trust

Graeme briefed the SC on a request by the Pew Charitable Trust for him to lead a process to identify the top 30 priorities for MPA creation based on biological criteria and feasibility.

**Action agreed:**

**SC Members to provide Graeme any urgent advice on suitable sites.**

IMPAC 1

Graeme briefed the SC on IMPAC 1 outlining background and the fact that more than 760 participants are registered from 60 countries. Aim of IMPAC is to share knowledge rather than to influence policy or strategy.

IUCN PA Categories & marine

Graeme outlined the history of the development of categories and how it applies to marine systems. Graeme believes that the existing system is perfectly adequate for MPAs without the need to create an alternative system. A weekend workshop will focus on guidelines on applying the existing system, and not to create an alternative system.

**STRATEGIC PLAN – PARTNERSHIPS & MEMBERSHIP TARGETS**

Partnerships:

WCPA Chair led discussion on the importance of partners and the Strategic Plan focus on WH Convention and CBD.

**Action agreed:**

**SC comments/edits to this section of the Plan were captured for the revision.**

**Agreed that PPA/WCPA's partnership with UNEP-WCMC should be elevated to the same level of the WH Convention and CBD.**

**WCPA Executive to explore partnership opportunities with UNESCO's MAB and with the Ramsar Convention.**

Membership:

Agreed that Regional VCs must be advised of any nominees for WCPA membership which are brought forward by thematic leads. No power of veto is proposed for Regional VCs. In the rare event of disagreement on a proposed member the WCPA Chair will arbitrate.

**YOUNG PROFESSIONALS**

Cassie Wright delivered an introductory presentation which highlighted the opportunity to engage new people and generational change. She circulated proposals to activate youth engagement.

The SC noted the following:

1. Value of establishing a short term 'working group' under SD3 to focus on addressing young professional issues with the aim to develop an action plan. There were mixed views on whether this should be a formal Task Force or some other form of working group based on the concern that youth issues should be fully integrated into WCPA activities.

2. Reinforced the 10% regional target for young professionals needs some analysis of the current age structure of membership.
3. Agreed that the age bracket should be extended to 35 years.
4. SC supported continuation of the IUCN-CIPAM Young PA Professional Scholarships which were initiated in 2005. Opportunities should be explored to replicate the approach in other regions (noting CIPAM are active in South Africa). Agreed that the concept of broadening the benefits to youth through for instance the PA Essay concept worthwhile. Agreed that the working group could establish a register of programmes for young professionals.
5. SC supported the initiatives to finesse the WCPA-IRF Award to Young Conservation Professionals. Detailed proposals could be assessed by the proposed working group.
6. WCPA should involve young professionals in project development to support these initiatives.
7. WCPA should promote opportunities for youth participation at any conferences or events it is associated with.
8. Importance of bringing fresh perspectives and be challenged by youth (and other groups). The working group should be driven by young professionals, who could invite older input. Young people should be empowered as leaders for WCPA. Caution against being too elitist in offering awards & scholarships.
9. The World Protected Areas Leadership Forum (WPALF) provides a valuable network via Agency CEOs to integrate youth into WCPA's work.

**Action agreed:**

**Task Cassie/Penny/Floyd and others to develop and circulate electronically terms of reference for the establishment of a working group or Task Force on Young Professionals.**

**Action agreed:**

**Agreed that CIPAM scholarships should continue and that efforts to fundraise should be pursued.**

**Action agreed:**

**Future meetings of the SC should consider challenge forums which draw out the perspectives of different groups – youth, private sector, indigenous groups, media etc.**

**GEF/UNDP RUSSIAN PA PROJECT**

Natalia Danilina presented details of the Russian GEF/UNDP Project which is focused on PA Capacity Development and Training.

The SC noted the following:

1. Project presents an opportunity for the WCPA Network to engage and add value to a funded project. The project outputs and outcomes should be shared through PALNet.
2. Noting that WWF and the 'Katoomba Group' have a lot of information on payments for environmental services (PES), however this is a poorly developed area and may distract other important aspects of the Russian project.
3. Project highlights the fact that many funded projects have global components. When fully functional PALNet should scan GEF and other projects to harvest this global information.

## **TASK FORCES**

The SC noted the number and quality of Task Force TORs demonstrating the impressive work being carried out through the network. Feedback is needed on any aspects of these, particularly consistency with the Strategic Plan.

### **Action agreed:**

**SC to review the reports and provide feedback to Nik on consistency with the Strategic Plan and directions by end of November 2005.**

The SC noted gaps in the current array of Task Forces and opportunities to address these.

The SC noted the following:

1. Establishing Task Forces on economic valuation of PAs and on awareness raising (constituency building for PAs) are priorities.
2. IUCN's new office in Fiji should provide an opportunity for WCPA to become active in the Pacific.
3. Suggestion of need for a Task Force on extractive industries, however agreed that this should be considered in terms of IUCN's broader engagement with the extractive industries sector recognizing the sensitivities.

### **Action agreed:**

**Finalization of the matrix to identify regional areas of expertise may identify where the gaps could be picked up. Nik to contact membership to see if there is interest in establishing these Task Forces.**

### Conservation Planning Task Force

Nik outlined approaches from SSC on joint work on gap analysis. Advocates of establishing a TF on this requested this be discussed at the SCs of both Commissions.

The SC noted the following:

1. Need to bring a systemic perspective to balance SSC's species approach to gaps in the PA system which addresses the wide range of PA governance options.
2. There is a need to look at how we can link the global PA system to the Red List process.
3. CEM should be brought into the discussions to link to bioregional approaches and ecosystem health.

**Action agreed:**

**Chair WCPA to approach Chair SSC and convey the positive response from the SC plus the fact that WCPA brings its experience with systemic approaches. A possible strategy is to stage a joint meeting to flesh out the collaborative approach (including WCMC).**

Categories Task Force

Nik noted the paper tabled by Nigel Dudley which raises questions on the IUCN PA definition and the relativity between biodiversity and cultural values.

The SC noted the following:

1. Including cultural values is appropriate in the definition provided it is contributing or linked to biodiversity and is not an isolated artefact.
2. Conservation is a cultural construct therefore nature and culture are indivisible.
3. Concern that this doesn't degenerate into a nature versus culture debate. Emphasis should be on degree of protection but of both – the six categories should be driven around degree of protection.
4. All categories are controversial and all have variable biodiversity values. Most PAs protect more than biodiversity and there are many protect areas with very limited biodiversity values.
5. Most PAs are managed to protect or enhance agreed societal values be they natural or cultural.
6. IUCN definition means biodiversity has to be at least one of the management aims. CBD definition is under the chapeau of the CBD therefore the two definitions are very similar.
7. SC agreed the IUCN is robust and appropriate, simply needing interpretation.

**Agreed action:**

**The SC endorsed the interpretation of Achim Steiner, David Sheppard and Nik Lopoukhine as noted in Nigel's paper. This should be relayed to the Task Force with a request that it be the basis of a written interpretation of the PA definition.**

## Management Effectiveness Task Force

Presentations were given by Geoff Vincent on recent State of the Parks reporting processes for Victoria and NSW and by Graeme Worboys on the Global Management Effectiveness Survey being initiated by Marc Hockings.

The SC noted the following:

1. Agreement that State of the Parks reporting:
  - Provides a useful tool for tracking PA system level effectiveness.
  - Allows PA staff to openly and collectively review their management and consider effectiveness.
  - Collates state of knowledge about the resources and the degree of confidence in management.
  - Provides a compelling tool to argue for resources.
  - Is a powerful stakeholder communication tool.
  
2. Support for the proposed Global Study on Mgt Effectiveness, noting the importance of sharing experiences and measuring management effectiveness trends over time. Performance needs to be measured against a baseline of condition, and not be just a snap shot.

### **Action agreed:**

**Marc Hockings requested to send an email to VCs with some background and the specific requests. In particular requesting Regional VC support to feedback on management effectiveness tools and approaches being used in their regions; providing a letter of support to facilitate approaches to regional PA agencies; identifying contact points in their regions.**

## **STRUCTURE OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE**

Nik Lopoukhine presented on the structure of WCPA which reinforces the four Strategic Directions as cross cutting directions rather than stand alone programmes of action. Task Forces will play a central role in implementing action across the four SDs. As noted above the following VCs will coordinate these SDs:

1. Conserving Biodiversity (Graeme Worboys to take this on progressively and subject to is other commitments)
2. Science, Knowledge & Management (Marc Hockings)
3. Capacity Development & Awareness (John Hough)
4. Governance, equity & livelihoods (Ashish Kothari/Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend pending replacement)

A number of gaps in the WCPA structure were noted including the World Heritage VC; Marine VC; Regional VCs for Pacific, East Africa and Southern Africa. Nik noted the proposal to open up a call for expressions of interest within the broader WCPA membership and beyond.

A request for clarification of the position of Senior Advisors on the SC was discussed. Nik confirmed that all Senior Advisors (not just past Chairs) were members of the SC.

**Action agreed:**

**WCPA Chair to circulate expression of interest request for filling gaps in the WCPA SC structure. Nik to send email clarifying the position of Senior Advisors on the SC.**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Terms of Reference for RVCs:

The SC noted the need to finalize generic TORs for the Regional VCs.

**Action agreed:**

**Floyd & Roger to develop some Regional VC TORs to provide to the Executive.**

Previous WCPA SC & IUCN Council Decisions; IUCN Policy; WCPA Induction Manual

There was a request for information on the previous decisions of the WCPA SC and other matters which would provide valuable background and context particularly for those new members of the SC.

The 2001 WCPA Members Guide (Induction Manual) needs to be updated.

**Action agreed:**

**PPA to circulate to the SC the recently completed IUCN Policy analysis (Resolutions) and hard copies of last 5 years of WCPA SC minutes. WCPA Chair to discuss with PPA updating of the WCPA Members Guide.**

Nuclear Power

Penny Figgis forecast to the SC the emerging issue on use of nuclear power to address climate change. She noted the particular position of Australia given its Uranium reserves and their coincidence with PAs therefore predicting a challenging issue for conservation.

WCPA Chair advised that IUCN's policy position on nuclear energy will need to be set through the membership either through the WCC or Council between Congresses. He suggested consulting Regional Councilors to see that the issue is addressed by Council. Technical advice from WCPA can be sought.

Upcoming meetings:

SC Members noted a number of upcoming meetings including CBD COP8 (noting the postponing of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ad Hoc Working Group on PAs originally scheduled for November 2005; WH Evaluators Workshop in Vilm, Germany, November 2005; Sustainable Financing meeting, 2006; Urban PAs, Cape Town, 2006; possible Categories Summit, late 2006; WPALF Mexico, 2006; Ramsar COP, November 2005, Uganda; Peter Bridgewater and Water Programme keen to stage an event with PPA/WCPA on freshwater next year.

**Agreed action:**

**Delwyn Dupuis to be advised on upcoming meetings to include these on the WCPA web site. Proposed quarterly eNewsletter to include section on upcoming meetings.**

## **CLOSE**

WCPA Chair thanked the SC for a very productive meeting. He presented an action list for follow up. He also requested that SC members complete the self assessment evaluation forms and return them to him.

The SC noted again their appreciation and special vote of thanks to Parks Victoria and especially Geoff Vincent for his support in hosting the meeting and participating in our discussions. Special thanks also to Jacqui Hawkes from Parks Victoria for her excellent organization of the meeting in collaboration with the PPA team in Gland.

## ANNEX A: PARTICIPANT LIST

### WCPA Steering Committee Meeting 19th – 22nd October 2005

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#### Present:

Nik Lopoukhine  
Trevor Sandwidth  
Marc Hockings  
Penny Figgis  
Carmen Miranda

Floyd Homer  
Cristi Nozawa  
Natalia Danilia  
Eduard Müller  
Roger Crofts

Dave Harmon  
Graeme Worboys  
Graeme Kelleher  
Grazia Borrini-  
Feyerabend

Cassie Wright, young professionals rep.  
Ed McManus, UNEP- WCMC  
Geoff Vincent, Parks Victoria  
Max Zieren, GEF/UNEP, Nairobi  
Jacqui Hawkes, Parks Victoria

Peter Shadie, IUCN, Gland  
Keith Williams, IUCN, Bangkok  
Silvio Olivieri, IUCN, Gland

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