

DRAFT Resolution WCC-2020-Res-xx

Improving management effectiveness in protected and conserved areas

RECOGNIZING the commitment embodied in Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 of the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 that protected areas should be "effectively and equitably managed";

INCREASINGLY CONCERNED that biodiversity continues to decline, even within protected areas, in the face of direct and indirect anthropogenic impacts, including exploitation (e.g. overfishing, hunting) habitat loss, pollution and climate change;

NOTING that protected and conserved areas that are effectively managed do maintain and restore biodiversity, as well as provide important social and economic benefits to communities living in and around them;

WELCOMING the successful launch of the IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas, which aims to encourage, achieve and promote effective, equitable and successful protected and conserved areas.

RECALLING item 4 of the CBD's *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* which commits the Parties to the Convention to assess and improve the effectiveness of the management of protected areas and that at the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan, 18–29 October 2010, Parties committed to assessing the management effectiveness of 60% of the total area of their protected areas by 2015, and to sharing their results in the database managed by the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC);

RECALLING the Convention on Migratory Species' (CMS) Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023 Target 10 to have all key sites for migratory species included in area-based conservation measures to maintain their quality in accordance with the implementation of Aichi Target 11;

RECALLING RAMSAR's Strategic plan 2016-2024 Target 5 to ensure the ecological character of all Ramsar sites is maintained or restored, through effective planning and integrated management;

RECALLING several IUCN Recommendations and Resolutions urging Member States to create and **effectively manage** networks of MPAs, in particular Resolutions 1.37 *Marine Protected Areas* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), 2.20 *Conservation of marine biodiversity* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), and 4.045 *Accelerating progress to establish marine protected areas and creating marine protected area networks* adopted at the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008); and WCC-2012-Res-076-EN: *Accelerating the global pace of establishing marine protected areas and the certification of their effective management*

AWARE that the UNEP-WCMC's 2018 Protected Planet report shows that only ca. 28,000 of the 230,000 protected areas have reported information on management effectiveness assessments and, of these, only a small fraction have provided detailed information relating to the effectiveness and quality of management.

WELCOMING, the CBD's decision XIII/2 which invites Parties to undertake more systematic assessments of management effectiveness and biodiversity outcomes of protected areas and provide information on the results to the Global Database on Protected Areas Management Effectiveness, maintained by the UNEP-WCMC; and to promote the development of global or regional projects which could support national

assessments of management effectiveness and equity in protected areas and encourage the sharing of best practices and lessons learned with interested Parties;

WELCOMING the contribution of the UNEP-WCMC in compiling and managing data on protected area management effectiveness as part of its Protected Planet programme and the United Nations List of Protected Areas

ENCOURAGED by the rapid development of methodologies for assessing management effectiveness but conscious that this has led to some confusion about best approaches to assess effectiveness in particular circumstances;

CONCERNED by the fact that a great deal of work remains to be done, often due to lack of technical and financial means, to ensure the management, monitoring and effective enforcement of protected and conserved areas;

NOTING that studies across both marine and terrestrial realms show that the majority of assessed protected and conserved areas are severely underfunded and that the levels of funding and quality of management relate directly to the delivery of conservation outcomes.

BELIEVING therefore that continued attention to improving the quality of protected areas through assessing, reporting and responding to management effectiveness should be a critical element of future targets for protected areas;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Marseille, France, 2020:

1. REQUESTS IUCN Members, government agencies and non-governmental organizations to build assessments of management effectiveness into their protected area management plans, so that adaptive management becomes the norm; and to encourage the development of explicit mechanisms to (i) document management so that information is available for verification, and (ii) use the results of assessments in management.
2. CALLS UPON IUCN Members, including States, government agencies and non-governmental organizations, to develop capacity building initiatives for management effectiveness assessment.
3. CALLS UPON IUCN Members, including States, government agencies and non-governmental organizations to establish knowledge sharing mechanisms and develop tools to facilitate assessment of management effectiveness.
4. Calls upon IUCN Members, including States, government agencies and non-governmental organizations to prioritize the use of management effectiveness tools that assess the condition of biodiversity in protected and conserved areas, in addition to key elements of governance, management and planning.
5. REQUESTS IUCN Members, including State, government agency and non-governmental organizations, to work with UNEP-WCMC to track global and regional progress in assessing management effectiveness of all protected areas and to improve data collation processes
6. QUESTS donors and funding agencies to make funding available for long term monitoring programmes that will provide the data and documentation required for management effectiveness assessments, and for capacity-building and training relating to assessing management effectiveness.