

RESOLUTIONS

A. Governance-related

2.1 Mandate for the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP)

GRATEFUL for the past work of the Commission on Environmental Planning, most recently known as 'Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP)', as one of the networks of expert volunteers entrusted to develop and advance the institutional knowledge and experience and objectives of IUCN under Article 73 of the Statutes;

HAVING CONSIDERED the external review of IUCN Commissions commissioned by Council in accordance with Resolution 19.2 of the IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994);

NOTING the need to enhance the substantive support for the Council, and in particular its Committee on Policy, in the interval between World Conservation Congresses, by means of an expert knowledge network on social and economic issues, to complement the knowledge networks provided by the other Commissions;

AWARE that IUCN's vision and mission compel it to examine the forces in the world that drive us, directly and indirectly, towards and away from our ultimate conservation goals;

CONVINCED that IUCN must make strategic choices to address the political, economic and social issues that propel the degradation of the planet;

RECOGNIZING that IUCN has decided to focus its programme on the interaction between the conservation goals and the social and economic forces;

NOTING that the Key Result Areas in the IUCN Programme call for close attention to be paid to the social and economic underpinnings of conservation;

HIGHLIGHTING that these Key Result Areas are of crucial importance for most countries in the political South as well as for fostering more equitable and environmentally sustainable relationships between the North and the South, where the imperatives of conservation must be reconciled with those of development and poverty alleviation; and

CONVINCED that a substantial proportion of the IUCN membership supports a strengthening of the social and economic agenda within the Union, and the existence of an organized Commission network to ensure full and easy access to global expertise in these fields;

The World Conservation Congress at its 2nd Session in Amman, Jordan, 4–11 October 2000:

1. DECIDES to adopt the following mandate of the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP):

The Mission...

...of the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy is to contribute to the IUCN mission by providing expertise on the crucial economic, social and cultural factors affecting natural resources and biological diversity, and guidance and support towards effective policies and practices in environmental conservation and sustainable development.

The Purpose...

...of CEESP is rooted in the fact that both conservation and degradation result from the interaction of humans and nature and, as such, primarily need to be dealt with through social, cultural, and economic insight and action. CEESP will provide an open and critical space within the IUCN community where such insight can be developed, articulated and gained, and such action can be planned and organized. Through various forms of interaction and collaboration with the IUCN members, partners, members of other Commissions and Secretariat, CEESP will help IUCN move closer to its Vision: 'A just world that values and conserves nature'.

CEESP Strategic Objectives

- To lead and facilitate IUCN's critical thinking and learning and inter-disciplinary efforts towards more equitable, viable and sustainable action for natural resource management and conservation.
- To develop, articulate and provide effective advice in support of IUCN's efforts (e.g. on approaches, lessons learned, methods and tools) towards more equitable, viable and sustainable action for natural resource management and conservation.
- To foster, support and learn from a variety of community-based experiences and initiatives towards more equitable, viable and sustainable action for natural resource management and conservation.

Priorities

The Commission shall focus particularly on the following four themes:

- Collaborative Management
- Sustainable Livelihoods
- Environment and Security
- Trade and Environment

The proposed orientation of each is outlined below:

Collaborative Management

This component will build upon the work of the CEESP Collaborative Management Working Group (CMWG), and will include activities of the newly set-up WCPA¹–CEESP Task Force on Local Communities and Protected Areas (TFLCPA). In the last four years, the CMWG has been a main reference point for the Union on matters of

¹ World Commission on Protected Areas

participatory management of natural resources. In the future, the CMWG will structure its work even more explicitly on regional and thematic areas. It will assist the IUCN members, partners and regional offices in developing and supporting initiatives that link field-based experience in participatory management with the development of local capacities (knowledge, skills, attitudes and institutions) and the elaboration of national, regional and global policies. It will work with the TFLCPA to fulfil its terms of reference. Project proposals will be developed and submitted for funding on a number of topical areas (e.g. co-management of protected areas and agricultural landscapes, involvement of local communities in ecosystem conservation – with emphasis on poor communities in particularly harsh and fragile ecosystems, such as arid lands, mountains and coastal areas; policy development, including analysis and comparison of co-management policies on a regional basis). Efforts will be made to continue to expand and diversify the membership of CMWG and the TFLCPA. A Newsletter and a discussion list will continue to serve as mechanisms for communication among members.

Sustainable Livelihoods

IUCN has played a role in the area of ‘sustainable livelihoods’ since the World Conservation Strategy, a role reaffirmed and reinforced in the Ottawa Conference of 1986. CEESP will continue to develop a structure to work on this topic from all major perspectives, including those of local communities, the private sector, international development agencies, donors, academia and NGOs. CEESP will promote, support and learn from field practice. It will develop and disseminate approaches and mechanisms for integrating the conservation of biodiversity and poverty elimination, including issues of equity and justice. Together with a network of collaborating institutions and experts, CEESP will produce publications for both practitioners and policy makers active in the subject.

Environment and Security

This component will build upon the work of the current CEESP Task Force on Environment and Security. It will focus on two priorities: Environment, Security and Risk Management; and Environmental Management and Vulnerability to Natural Disasters. In each case, working under the guidance of the existing Task Force, and in close association with the IUCN Programmes and regions, the group will identify and develop 8-10 case studies from around the world, which will exemplify and illustrate the topic. These will be presented and debated at a conference, and later published as a book. The case studies will also contribute to the development of courses in cooperation with the University for Peace. Each project will take one year.

Trade and Environment

This component of the CEESP mandate shall help in defining the IUCN niche in trade and environment, focusing on providing practical information services to the IUCN membership on the interface between international trade rules and biodiversity. Special focus would be given to the environmental conventions – CBD² and CITES³ in particular.

² Convention on Biological Diversity

Joint programmes will be designed and implemented with relevant partners, such as the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD). A Trade and Environment Task Force of CEESP members will be established to steer the effort. The Task Force will likely begin with a survey of global and regional IUCN interests in the Trade and Environment field, building on efforts already underway in Southern Africa, South Asia and Central America. It will focus on provision of up-to-date information and policy options, and on action-oriented advice to the IUCN membership. Early topics of interest might include the impact of trade liberalization on natural resources (e.g. forests), perverse subsidies, and the intellectual property rights provisions of the CBD.

Structure and organization

Chair, Deputy Chair and Steering Committee

The governance structure of the Commission shall consist of the Chair, a Deputy Chair and four Thematic Vice-Chairs, in addition to not more than 10 Regional Vice-Chairs. Together, they shall form the Steering Committee (SC) of the Commission. The SC shall establish partnerships to carry out CEESP goals and designate organizations that work closely with CEESP as cooperating organizations.

Members

The Commission will seek a diversified membership, balanced in terms of gender, geographical region, discipline and culture. With time, CEESP seeks to bring together some of the world's foremost conservation and sustainable development practitioners, relevant social scientists, economists and top experts representing major conservation and development organizations with a keen interest in community-based as well as macro-level sustainable development.

Work Plan

CEESP will develop an annual Work Plan in collaboration, as appropriate, with IUCN members, members of other Commissions, and the Secretariat, in harmony with the Union's programmatic objectives and work plan.

In pursuing its mandate, the Commission will liaise closely with other Commissions and integrate its work within the overall IUCN Programme.

Structure

In consultation with the Steering Committee, the Chair may establish particular working groups to address particular elements of the work programme, collaborating with other relevant actors in the Union. The Chair may appoint task forces to deal with specific shorter-term assignments. In addition to thematic units, a regional structure may be created for CEESP;

³ Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

2. DIRECTS the Council, at its first meeting, to be held on 11 October 2000, to seek nominations from the membership of the Union for the position of Chair of CEESP, with CVs of candidates to be received within a period of four weeks of the said meeting, and to include in a list of nominees the candidature of Dr. M. Taghi Farvar, whose name has been endorsed by the Steering Committee of CEESP;
3. FURTHER DIRECTS the President of Council to arrange a postal ballot among Council members for the election of the Chair within two weeks of the said closing date for the receipt of the nominations from among candidates who demonstrate experience, willingness, and ability to work within the mandate of the Commission;
4. URGES the Director General and the newly-elected Commission Chair to ensure that the Commission's work, the work of the other Commissions, and the IUCN Programme are coherent, mutually supportive, and synergetic;
5. REQUESTS that the Director General ensures such coherence, support and synergy by dedicating relevant and appropriate professional staff in the Secretariat to the Commission.

This Resolution was adopted by consensus. State and Agency members United States abstained from the adoption by consensus of this Resolution. The President of IUCN indicated that the naming of an individual in operative paragraph two had been the result of exceptional circumstances and was not intended to create a precedent.