



Addendum to the Proceedings of the Members' Assembly

World Conservation Congress
Marseille, France
3–10 September 2021



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Summary of online discussion and voting on motions ahead of the Members' Assembly at the forthcoming IUCN Congress

Motions submitted by IUCN Members

Online discussion and voting on 109 motions submitted by Members was completed in October 2020. As a result of ongoing uncertainty about the date and format of the Congress due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Members decided overwhelmingly that, “*as an exception to Rule 62septimo of the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress, the motions adopted by this electronic vote become effective at the close of this electronic vote on motions*”. Consequently, the 109 motions that Members adopted by electronic vote entered into force as IUCN policy as of late October 2020. A further 19 motions submitted by Members were forwarded to the Members' Assembly for further debate and were not subject to electronic voting. Further details can be found here:

<https://www.iucncongress2020.org/event/members-assembly/motions>

Governance-related motions

Following online discussion during the period October to December 2020 of nine motions covering proposals to amend the IUCN Statutes, as well as other governance issues, the Governance and Constituency Committee of Council decided to forward all nine motions to the Members' Assembly for further discussion and not to submit them for electronic voting in early 2021 as initially foreseen. Further details can be found here:

<https://www.iucncongress2020.org/event/members-assembly/amendments-iucn-statutes>

Other Congress decisions

As a result of the postponement of the Congress, IUCN Council decided to submit a number of additional key items of Congress business (including the IUCN Programme and Financial Plan for 2021–2024, other financial and membership matters, and Commission Mandates) to an electronic vote early in 2021. Online discussion of these items took place from 22 October to 3 December 2020 and electronic voting took place between 27 January and 10 February 2021. The remainder of this document summarises the outcomes of the online discussion and electronic voting for the 12 decisions concerned, as follows:

- D01 IUCN Programme 2021–2024
- D02 IUCN Financial Plan 2021–2024
- D03 Proposal for Membership Dues
- D04 Rescission of Members' rights whose dues are in arrears
- D05 Appointment of External Auditors
- D06 Audited Financial Statements for the period 2016–2019
- D07 Proposed Mandate for the Commission on Education and Communication (CEC)
- D08 Proposed Mandate for the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM)
- D09 Proposed Mandate for the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP)
- D10 Proposed Mandate for the Species Survival Commission (SSC)
- D11 Proposed Mandate for the World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL)
- D12 Proposed Mandate for the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)

Motion D01 IUCN Programme 2021–2024

Summary of the online discussion

Substantive comments and proposed amendments were submitted by 19 IUCN Members.

The Center for Environmental Legal Studies – CEL (United States of America – USA) and International Council of Environmental Law – ICEL (USA), requested reconsideration of IUCN Council’s decision to reject Motion 40107 *Adding Mitigation of Energy Causes of Climate Change to Programme 2021–2024*. The IUCN Secretariat noted that the Programme and Policy Committee of Council (PPC) had taken into account the decision of Members at the 2016 Members’ Assembly to reject a similar amendment proposing the addition of a theme on energy in the IUCN Programme 2017–2020. In response, CEL and ICEL considered that the threats associated with climate change had grown exponentially in severity and threat, warranting reconsideration of Motion 40107. The PPC reconfirmed its decision to reject Motion 40107 but undertook to strengthen narrative sections of the Programme 2021–2024 in relation to climate change and the need to move away from fossil fuels.

In response to a question from the Japan National Committee of IUCN Members, the IUCN Secretariat clarified that the purpose of the ‘digital platform’ foreseen in Section 8 of the draft Programme 2021–2024 was to document the contributions of the whole Union to realisation of the Programme, and hence delivery against the Sustainable Development Goals, Paris Agreement, and Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

The Margaret Pyke Trust (United Kingdom) underlined that the draft Programme 2021–2024 should highlight the linkage between human health and environmental health as a two-way relationship.

The World Resources Institute, supported by Thinking Animals Inc., Wildlife Conservation Society, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Conservation International, Natural Resources Defense Council and National Whistleblower Center (all USA-based), as well as Culture and Environment Preservation Association (Cambodia), called for the draft Programme 2021–2024 to address explicitly the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Margaret Pyke Trust and Parks Canada Agency (PCA) concurred but advocated that this should be addressed in the context of wider human and environmental health interactions. PCA tabled a number of specific proposed amendments. The IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) Wildlife Health Specialist Group provided information on SSC’s development of a situation analysis on the linkages between wildlife and the emergence of infectious diseases in humans. Parks Victoria (Australia), supported by Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment, proposed amendments highlighting the people-nature nexus as critical for biodiversity conservation. In response to these, PPC undertook to prepare, in conjunction with the IUCN Secretariat, an Addendum to the Programme addressing linkages between conservation and human health.

Wildlife Conservation Society, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), National Whistleblower Center and Earth League International further considered that the Programme should give more attention to the significance of direct exploitation of species, especially through wildlife trade and wildlife crime. NRDC tabled a number of specific proposed amendments.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development (France) proposed additions to broaden the vision of conservation set out in the draft Programme.

The Norwegian Environment Agency tabled a number of specific proposed amendments.

Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (USA) called for the Programme to put the weight of IUCN into efforts to secure new Marine Protected Areas in the Southern Ocean.

Sustainable Forestry Inc. – SFI (USA) called for IUCN and its Members to maintain focus on the key

role of sustainably managed forests in securing positive global biodiversity outcomes. SFI also urged a wide view of ‘green jobs’ beyond conventional ‘rural livelihoods’.

In addition, statements of general support for the Programme were submitted by four Members.

Taking into account the comments and proposed amendments submitted, a revised text was prepared by PPC and submitted for the online vote.

Outcome of the electronic vote

DECISION 1

On the proposal of the IUCN Director General and with the approval of the Council in accordance with Article 88 (e) of the Statutes, IUCN Members **APPROVED** the IUCN Programme 2021–2024.

The result of electronic voting between 27 January and 10 February 2021 was as follows:

Motion D01	YES	NO	ABSTAIN*
Category A	140 (100%)	0	3
Category B	710 (99%)	5 (1%)	18

*Abstentions are not counted as votes cast (IUCN Statutes, Article 32).

Motion D02 IUCN Financial Plan 2021–2024

Summary of the online discussion

In response to points raised by the National Whistleblower Center (USA), the Chief Financial Officer noted that approximately CHF 1 million of core (unrestricted) resources were currently invested in dedicated fundraising support, with a similar amount invested in global communications, representing in each case about 3% of IUCN’s unrestricted budget and less than 1% of its total budget. He provided additional details of where these investments were located. The 10% increase in membership dues is based on the application of the Membership Dues Guide to be voted on in accordance with motion D03, and anticipated growth in the membership over the period 2021–2024. A consultation with the membership had taken place in late 2019 and early 2020 with regard to proposed changes to the dues methodology. The Financial Plan was supported by an Operational Plan, which was referenced in the document. In addition, it would be supported by an implementation plan to be developed in the first part of 2021.

The Ministry of the Environment of Finland enquired whether an assessment of the risk of losing Members as a result of the revised dues system has been undertaken.

In addition, statements of general support were submitted by two Members.

Outcome of the electronic vote

DECISION 2

On the proposal of the IUCN Director General and with the approval of the Council in accordance with Article 88 (e) of the Statutes and Article 91 of the Regulations, IUCN Members **APPROVED** the IUCN Financial Plan 2021–2024.

The result of electronic voting between 27 January and 10 February 2021 was as follows:

Motion D02	YES	NO	ABSTAIN*
Category A	132 (99%)	1 (1%)	8
Category B	651 (99%)	6 (1%)	68

*Abstentions are not counted as votes cast (IUCN Statutes, Article 32).

Motion D03 Proposal for Membership Dues

Summary of the online discussion

Substantive comments were received from seven IUCN Members. Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (Argentina) considered the proposal fair and reasonable, noting that many other membership organisations took into account the overall budget of members, not only operational budgets. Cornell Botanic Gardens (USA) felt that ‘venue-based’ organisations, including botanical gardens, would struggle to afford dues based on their overall budgets and that the proposed new dues structure was unfair. Thinking Animals Inc. (United States of America – USA), National Whistleblower Center (USA), Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (USA) all proposed deferring this Motion for consideration by the Members’ Assembly during the forthcoming IUCN Congress. Association Sénégalaise des Amis de la Nature (Senegal) suggested that Council should assess on a regional basis the reality of the situation confronting Members unable to pay their dues. Environment and Conservation Organisations of New Zealand (New Zealand) was generally supportive but noted it would be important for all Members to know the level of dues to be paid in 2021. In addition, one Member indicated general support for the Motion.

Outcome of the electronic vote

DECISION 3

On the proposal of the IUCN Council, IUCN Members

1. **ADOPTED** the proposal for membership dues, according to Article 20 (f) of the IUCN Statutes (Annex 1); and
2. **MANDATED** the 2021–2024 Council to:
 - CONTINUE THE WORK achieved by the 2016–2020 Council on:
 - a. the issue of dues for venue-based organisations and government agencies;
 - b. the issue of the value of membership and Members facing difficult financial situations and not being able to pay their dues; and to
 - SUBMIT both proposals to IUCN Members by electronic vote before the next Congress.

The result of electronic voting between 27 January and 10 February 2021 was as follows:

Motion D03	YES	NO	ABSTAIN*
Category A	122 (94%)	8 (6%)	13
Category B	621 (96%)	27 (4%)	82

*Abstentions are not counted as votes cast (IUCN Statutes, Article 32).

Motion D04 Rescission of Members’ rights whose dues are in arrears

Summary of the online discussion

No substantive comments or proposed amendments were received from IUCN Members. Statements of general support for the proposal as drafted were submitted by two Members.

Outcome of the electronic vote

DECISION 4

IUCN Members **CONSIDERED** the list of IUCN Members whose membership dues are two or more years in arrears and **VOTED** to rescind all the remaining rights of those Members.

The result of electronic voting between 27 January and 10 February 2021 was as follows:

Motion D04	YES	NO	ABSTAIN*
Category A	93 (87%)	14 (13%)	36
Category B	524 (90%)	58 (10%)	146

*Abstentions are not counted as votes cast (IUCN Statutes, Article 32).

Motion D05 Appointment of External Auditors

Summary of the online discussion

No substantive comments or proposed amendments were received from IUCN Members. Statements of general support were submitted by three Members.

Outcome of the electronic vote

DECISION 5

At the recommendation of the IUCN Council, IUCN Members **APPOINTED** PricewaterhouseCoopers as IUCN External Auditors for the years 2021 to 2022 and **REQUESTED** that Council appoint the External Auditors for the years 2023 to 2024 following a competitive selection process.

The result of electronic voting between 27 January and 10 February 2021 was as follows:

Motion D05	YES	NO	ABSTAIN*
Category A	120 (98%)	3 (2%)	20
Category B	659 (99%)	6 (1%)	63

*Abstentions are not counted as votes cast (IUCN Statutes, Article 32)

Motion D06 Audited Financial Statements for the period 2016–2019

Summary of the online discussion

No substantive comments or proposed amendments were received from IUCN Members. Statements of general support were submitted by two Members.

Outcome of the electronic vote

DECISION 6

IUCN Members **APPROVED** the audited Financial Statements for the years 2016 to 2019 *submitted* by the Director General.

The result of electronic voting between 27 January and 10 February 2021 was as follows:

Motion D06	YES	NO	ABSTAIN*
Category A	128 (98%)	2 (2%)	10
Category B	654 (100%)	3 (0%)	73

*Abstentions are not counted as votes cast (IUCN Statutes, Article 32)

Motion D07 Proposed Mandate for the Commission on Education and Communication (CEC)

Summary of the online discussion

No substantive comments were received from IUCN Members.

Outcome of the electronic vote

DECISION 7

On the proposal of the IUCN Council, IUCN Members **APPROVED** the mandate for the IUCN Commission on Education and Communication (CEC) for the period 2021–2024.

The result of electronic voting between 27 January and 10 February 2021 was as follows:

Motion D07	YES	NO	ABSTAIN*
Category A	135 (100%)	0 (0%)	8
Category B	708 (100%)	0 (0%)	20

*Abstentions are not counted as votes cast (IUCN Statutes, Article 32)

Motion D08 Proposed Mandate for the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM)

Summary of the online discussion

No substantive comments were received from IUCN Members.

Outcome of the electronic vote

DECISION 8

On the proposal of the IUCN Council, IUCN Members **APPROVED** the mandate for the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) for the period 2021–2024.

The result of electronic voting between 27 January and 10 February 2021 was as follows:

Motion D08	YES	NO	ABSTAIN*
Category A	135 (100%)	0 (0%)	8
Category B	705 (100%)	2 (0%)	22

*Abstentions are not counted as votes cast (IUCN Statutes, Article 32)

Motion D09 Proposed Mandate for the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP)

Summary of the online discussion

Substantive comments were received from four IUCN Members. Instituto de Investigaciones Marinas y Costeras José Benito Vives de Andreis (Colombia) submitted three specific text amendments to the ‘Vision’ and ‘Programme Priorities’ section of the Proposed Mandate for CEESP. National Whistleblower Center (USA), supported by Earth League International (USA) enquired about the role of the CEESP Green Criminology Specialist Group, proposed a specific reference in the Mandate to CEESP’s contribution to combating natural resource crime, and urged recognition for the importance of whistleblowers under the Programme Priority ‘effective and equitable governance’. Earth League International also called for the Strategic Approaches and Programme Priorities to address the role of CEESP in responding to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development (France) submitted an amendment making explicit reference to the Paris Climate Agreement in the Programme Priority on ‘re-thinking nature and economics’. In addition, statements of general support were received from two Members.

Taking into account the comments and proposed amendments submitted, a revised text was prepared and submitted for the online vote.

Outcome of the electronic vote

DECISION 9
On the proposal of the IUCN Council, IUCN Members **APPROVED** the mandate for the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) for the period 2021–2024.

The result of electronic voting between 27 January and 10 February 2021 was as follows:

Motion D09	YES	NO	ABSTAIN*
Category A	130 (100%)	0 (0%)	13
Category B	704 (100%)	1 (0%)	23

*Abstentions are not counted as votes cast (IUCN Statutes, Article 32)

Motion D10 Proposed Mandate for the Species Survival Commission (SSC)

Summary of the online discussion

Substantive comments were received from 10 IUCN Members. Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (United States of America – USA) proposed inclusion of Antarctica and Southern Ocean/areas beyond national jurisdiction under SSC Objectives and Programme Areas. National Whistleblowers Center (USA) called for reference to the Covid-19 pandemic – and possible future pandemics – in relation to wildlife, and further urged inclusion of combating wildlife trafficking within SSC’s Objectives. Association of Zoos and Aquariums (USA) agreed that SSC could play an important role in addressing wildlife trafficking. Natural Resources Defense Council – NRDC (USA) submitted an amendment making explicit mention of the findings of the 2019 IPBES Report. NRDC supported the comments of the National Whistleblowers Center in relation to wildlife trafficking but considered that mention of trafficking/illegal wildlife trade should be broadened to refer to all direct exploitation of species. NRDC further proposed including a reference to the precautionary principle within the Objectives section of the draft SSC Mandate, and submitted specific amendments to eight Key Species Results (KSRs): 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 14 and 15. Referring to KSR 4, Thinking Animals Inc. (USA) called for IUCN in general to make greater efforts to publicise the work of SSC and the other

Commissions. Wildlife Conservation Society – WCS (USA) tabled specific proposed amendments to KSRs 2, 10, 12 and 13. International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies – IATWA (USA) generally supported the draft Mandate but felt that SSC should support sustainable and legal trade as a conservation tool. IATWA concurred with the text revisions to KSR 13 submitted by WCS but felt clarity could be improved by further adjustment to one phrase. Ministerio para la Transición Ecológica y el Reto Demográfico (Spain) drew attention to an error in the Spanish text.

In addition, there were two general statements of support for the SSC Mandate as originally drafted.

Taking into account the comments and proposed amendments submitted, a revised text was prepared and submitted for the online vote.

Outcome of the electronic vote

DECISION 10

On the proposal of the IUCN Council, IUCN Members **APPROVED** the mandate for the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) for the period 2021–2024.

The result of electronic voting between 27 January and 10 February 2021 was as follows:

Motion D10	YES	NO	ABSTAIN*
Category A	135 (100%)	0 (0%)	8
Category B	703 (99%)	7 (1%)	21

*Abstentions are not counted as votes cast (IUCN Statutes, Article 32)

Motion D11 Proposed Mandate for the World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL)

Summary of the online discussion

Substantive comments, including proposals for additions or other amendments, were received from six IUCN Members. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development (France) proposed that fighting environmental crime be included among WCEL’s Objectives. National Whistleblower Center (USA), supported by Natural Resources Defense Council (USA), Earth League International (USA) and International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (USA), noted that the draft Mandate did not refer to either WCEL’s role in responding to the Covid-19 pandemic and future pandemics, or to its role in combatting environmental and natural resource crime, and proposed corresponding amendments to the Objectives and Priorities sections of the draft Mandate. Environment and Conservation Organisations of New Zealand endorsed the comments made by the National Whistleblower Center and proposed further amendments to the Vision and Objectives sections of the draft Mandate. In addition, there were two general statements of support for the WCEL Mandate as originally drafted.

Taking into account the comments and proposed amendments submitted, a revised text was prepared and submitted for the online vote.

Outcome of the electronic vote

DECISION 11

On the proposal of the IUCN Council, IUCN Members **APPROVED** the mandate for the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) for the period 2021–2024.

The result of electronic voting between 27 January and 10 February 2021 was as follows:

Motion D11	YES	NO	ABSTAIN*
Category A	132 (100%)	0 (0%)	11
Category B	696 (100%)	3 (0%)	25

*Abstentions are not counted as votes cast (IUCN Statutes, Article 32)

Motion D12 Proposed Mandate for the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)

Summary of the online discussion

Comments were submitted by eight IUCN Members. Of these, three were statements of general support for the WCPA Mandate. Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (United States of America) and Environment and Conservation Organisations of New Zealand called for WCPA's Mandate specifically to include areas beyond national jurisdiction and to support the establishment of Marine Protected Areas in the Southern Ocean and Antarctica. National Whistleblower Center (USA) urged that the Mandate be updated to include WCPA's role in addressing (a) the impacts of Covid-19 and future pandemics on protected areas, and (b) natural resource crime. Earth League International (USA) supported the latter proposal and further called for WCPA's mandate to include support for rangers as frontline defenders. Thinking Animals Inc. (USA) recommended provision for more proactively enlisting the private sector in the establishment and management of protected areas. Environment and Conservation Organisations of New Zealand suggested a number of potential additional areas for WCPA engagement, including protection of extra-terrestrial areas, such as the Moon or Mars.

Taking into account the comments and proposed amendments submitted, a revised text was prepared and submitted for the online vote.

Outcome of the electronic vote

DECISION 12

On the proposal of the IUCN Council, IUCN Members **APPROVED** the mandate for the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) for the period 2021–2024.

The result of electronic voting between 27 January and 10 February 2021 was as follows:

Motion D12	YES	NO	ABSTAIN*
Category A	134 (100%)	0 (0%)	8
Category B	709 (100%)	3 (0%)	14

*Abstentions are not counted as votes cast (IUCN Statutes, Article 32)