

Summary of decisions by Council

At its 107th meeting, IUCN Council:

- Approved the IUCN 2021 Annual Report, which will soon be published on our website and translated in all official languages of the Union.
- Approved the 2021 financial statements and commended the Director General for the positive financial result achieved in 2021, despite the economic and logistical challenges pertaining to the ongoing pandemic. The majority of the surplus will be allocated to our reserves, in accordance with our Financial Plan; and in line with the DG's recommendation, we decided that CHF0.8m will be allocated to three critical items for the Union:
 - Commission events (The 2nd Asia Parks Congress – May 2022 (CHF0.1m); Africa Protected Areas Congress – July 2022 (CHF0.1m); and World Environment Law Congress in Oslo – Oct 2022: (CHF0.2m)
 - Development of a digital Member zone. The intent is to build a well-functioning online community platform with up-to-date technology to support effective communications, knowledge sharing and networking with and among Members, and strengthen the democratic processes of the Union.
 - In line with Resolution 113, we also decided to allocate CHF0.2m for a Red List of Threatened Species fundraising programme.
- Approved the IUCN Council's priorities and objectives for the term 2022-25. In summary, these include:
 - Governance reforms, in line with 2019 Governance External Review
 - Implementation of Resolutions. We approved the roadmap for implementing the 2021 Congress Resolutions and Decisions requiring action from Council during the term 2022-25, as recommended by the Programme and Policy Committee (PPC).
 - Develop the 20-year strategic vision to submit to Congress. In line with Congress Decision 147, Council approved the timeline for the development and consultation process of the 20-year Strategic Vision inclusive of a Financial Strategy and Strategic Plan for the Union. We also agreed that the Bureau, together with individuals nominated by IUCN Members and appointed by Council, including representation of the voice of youth, will constitute the "Steering Committee" of the "Strategy Project", and the Director General will act as "Project Manager".
 - Enhance the membership value proposition
 - Strengthen IUCN's international positioning
- Related to the last strategic objective of Council and with the aim to strengthen IUCN's international positioning with regard to discussions on climate and biodiversity, the Council requested PPC to:
 - develop the necessary modifications to IUCN's procedures in order to achieve agreed upon IUCN policy positions;
 - in cooperation with the Secretariat, make a recommendation on a strategy for policy engagement and advocacy.
- Appointed Mr. Manuel Pulgar-Vidal as Interim Chair of the IUCN Climate Crisis Commission. It was a very competitive process, and we are grateful to all candidates for their participation in this important process. We also approved the Synthesis of identified gaps in IUCN's engagement on climate change prepared by the PPC, Secretariat and Commissions, as well as the Criteria for the Climate Crisis Commission Interim Steering

Committee to guide the Interim Chair during the development of his proposal to Council for appointment of members of the Interim Steering Committee. As a reminder, the Council Decision 107/2 Requests the Interim Chair of the Commission to propose to Council the candidates for membership of the Interim Steering Committee of the Commission at the latest by 30 June 2022, in view of Council appointing them by 31 July 2022;

- Requested the Governance and Constituency Committee (GCC) to work in collaboration with the Advisory Group that was appointed in February on advancing the implementation of Decision 148 to ensure an effective attendance and participation of Members in future sessions of the IUCN World Conservation Congress ;
- Requested the standing committees to prepare for Council approval:
 - Broad guidance for the next motions process for both the Motions Working Group (when it will have been established) and the Secretariat
 - Draft amendments to the Statutes, Rules of Procedure and/or Regulations to improve the motions process, aligning both the content and approval process of its proposals with those of the Advisory Group on the revision of the Statutes
- I am delighted to share that Council also approved the admission of 13 new Members as well as some applications for change of membership category, including our first 7 subnational governments! These include: Detroit Zoological Society, Mangrove Action Project, Wolf Conservation Center, Hainan Tianxiang Magnolia Plant Conservation Research Center, WADI for Sustainable Ecosystem Development NGO, National Council for Scientific Research – Lebanon, TierraMar Ltd, Society for Nature Conservation – SABUKO, SOS Faune Sauvage and Dartmoor Zoological Society; and the following subnational governments: Gouvernement de la Nouvelle-Calédonie (Government of New Caledonia), Service des Parcs naturels régionaux et biodiversité - Conseil Régional Provence - Alpes - Côte d'Azur (Provence – Alpes - Côte d'Azur Regional Council), Agence des espaces verts de la région Ile de France, (Agency for green spaces, Ile de France), Ville de Paris (City of Paris), Oficina de protecció del ambiente de la Municipalidad de Curridabat (Office of Environmental Protection of Curridabat Municipality), Vice Consejería Sostenibilidad Ambiental, Gobierno Vasco (Vice Ministry of Environmental Sustainability, Basque Government) and Departament d'Acció Climàtica, Alimentació i Agenda Rural, Generalitat de Catalunya (Department of Climate Action, Food and Rural Agenda, Government of Catalonia). Please join me in extending a very warm welcome to our new Members.
- Recognised the Interregional Committee for Europe, North and Central Asia and the North Africa Regional Committee.
- Recognised the importance and time needed to further develop solutions for the challenges faced by IUCN Members regarding the increase of the membership dues following the implementation of the IUCN Membership Dues Guide adopted by Members in February 2021. We recommended stronger communications from the Secretariat with the membership regarding the new Dues Guide and its application; and advised the Secretariat to apply flexibility on payment schedule over two years at the condition to have part of the dues paid in 2022.
- Appointed, on the recommendation of the Chair of the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP), Ms Monipher Musasa (Malawi), Regional Vice Chair, Africa and Ms Swetha Stotra Bhashyam (India), Youth as members of the Steering Committee of CEESP.

- Decided to postpone the decision on the proposed engagement with TotalEnergies, as additional assessments are needed to enable an informed decision by Council. The Bureau was tasked with establishing a Council Working group to:
 - review the draft proposal with TotalEnergies, with the view to raise its ambition, and in particular revise the objectives, Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Outcomes and establish a framework for monitoring and evaluation with risk thresholds, communication plan and trigger points for exit;
 - seek a report from the WCEL Ethics Specialist Group on the proposed engagement with TotalEnergies;
 - enhance risk assessment procedures, environmental, biodiversity, human rights and social safeguards for high-risk endeavours, and establish clear thresholds including for unacceptable level of risks; and
 - review IUCN's engagement strategy with the private sector, building on lessons learned from the above, in particular with sectors directly involved in the energy transition.
- Decided to transfer letters concerning the situation in Ukraine received from members to Bureau for evaluation and guidance