



IUCN WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS
9–15 October 2025, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Proposed amendments to the IUCN Rules of Procedure

Improvements to the motions process

Action Requested: The World Conservation Congress is invited to CONSIDER and ADOPT the proposed amendments to the IUCN Rules of Procedures to improve the motions process submitted by the Council under Article 29 of the IUCN Statutes.

DRAFT MOTION

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025,

On the proposal of the IUCN Council acting upon the request of the Chair of the 2021 Members' Assembly¹ following a request from the Natural Resources Defense Council tabled at the 2021 World Conservation Congress, and taking into account experience of the online motions process 2025,

Amendments to the Rules of Procedure

1. Adopts the amendments to Rule 53 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress presented in Annex 1 to enhance the transparency of the motions process; and

Request to the IUCN Council

2. Only in case the amendment containing Option 2 is adopted, the following paragraph also needs to be added to the decision:

Requests the next IUCN Council 2026–2029 to draft consequential amendments that are limited to ensure coherence with the deadline of submission of new and urgent motions at one week before the opening of the Congress and deadline of publication of 72 hours before the opening of the Congress, and submit these amendments for an intersessional online vote.

¹ [Proceedings p. 49](#)

Existing provisions of the Rules of Procedure	Proposed amendments (with track changes)	New text as amended (all track changes 'accepted')
Rule 53 Motions meeting the criteria of Rule 52 shall be submitted from one week prior to the opening of the Congress until the end of the plenary sittings on the first day of the Members' Assembly. Motions received after such deadline shall be admitted only with the consent of the President.	Rule 53 Motions meeting the criteria of Rule 52 shall be submitted from one two weeks prior to the opening of the Congress until the end of the plenary sittings on the first day of the Members' Assembly. <u>Option 1: [the end of the first day of the Congress.]</u> <u>Option 2: [one week before the opening of the Congress and published no later than seventy-two hours before the opening of the Congress.]</u> Motions received after such deadline shall be admitted only with the consent of the President.	Rule 53 Motions meeting the criteria of Rule 52 shall be submitted from two weeks prior to the opening of the Congress until [the end of the first day of the Congress.] [one week before the opening of the Congress and published no later than seventy-two hours before the opening of the Congress.] Motions received after such deadline shall be admitted only with the consent of the President.
Explanatory note: In order for the process regarding motions submitted under Rule 52 to be more effective and transparent, such motions must be received well in advance of the 1st sitting of the Members' Assembly held following the close of the Forum – which used to be the standard format of Congress. Forty-eight hours before the 1st sitting is considered sufficient in this regard. However, the format of the 2025 Congress as described in the Provisional Agenda distributed to IUCN Members on 9 January 2025, will begin with a 1st sitting of the Members' Assembly immediately after the Opening of Congress and before the Forum begins, and will be followed by three days of Members' Assembly sittings four days later. This year's format will therefore allow sufficient time for the motions submitted under Rule 52 to be dealt with in a transparent and effective way – even without this amendment. However, the revised Rule 53 should be phrased in such a way that it is applicable to any future Congress regardless of its format. Even if adopted at the 1st sitting of the 2025 Members' Assembly and effective immediately, this amendment won't have any effect on this year's process because, in fact, current Rule 53 requires the motions to be submitted by the end of the 1st sitting held immediately after the Opening of Congress. There will therefore be no need for the IUCN Council to set a new deadline this year.		