

060 Nature conservation diplomacy: integrating conservation, peace and security through international cooperation

CONSIDERING the major environmental challenges threatening ecological balance, human well-being and global security, including biodiversity loss, erosion of geodiversity, climate change and ecosystem degradation;

RECOGNISING that international agreements and conventions have established sound foundations for global environmental actions, and EMPHASISING the importance of building upon these existing frameworks to enhance their effectiveness and synergy through optimised coordination;

ACKNOWLEDGING that national conservation efforts have yielded diverse solutions, and that these can, within a framework of open exchange and cooperation, be scaled up through knowledge sharing and mutual assistance;

AWARE that national economic priorities and sovereignties shape conservation strategies, and that proactive dialogue and negotiation can harmonise these interests with global conservation goals;

EMPHASISING that the coherent integration of nature conservation into foreign policies and security agendas can enhance bilateral and multilateral relations, foster mutual understanding and trust among States, and thereby contribute to a climate of shared peace and stability;

AFFIRMING that a well-defined and coordinated nature conservation diplomacy (NCD) is essential for bridging conservation, peace, and security issues while harmonizing diverse sectoral international commitments within foreign policy frameworks; and

CONVINCED that IUCN, through its expertise and global network, is uniquely positioned to champion the integration of NCD among its members, providing the needed support on a global scale;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025, at its session in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to engage strategically with global governance fora to promote recognition of the nature-peace-security nexus in international agendas;
2. ALSO REQUESTS the Director General to initiate a progressive outreach to Member States to promote NCD principles and encourage monitoring to assess effectiveness, ensure evaluation and facilitate improvement based on feedback and outcomes;
3. INVITES the Director General and Commissions to convene an interdisciplinary working group to explore the development of a global normative framework for NCD, including drafting guiding principles consistent with existing conventions and the Sustainable Development Goals; and
4. ENCOURAGES governments, local stakeholders, and Indigenous peoples and Local communities to consider the integration of NCD principles, once established, into their political, operational and financial frameworks.