

077 Maintain official development assistance for biodiversity preservation channelled through civil society in the event of a geopolitical crisis

TAKING NOTING of the report *FINANCING NATURE: Closing the Global Biodiversity Financing Gap* explaining that the funding required to halt and reverse the current trend of biodiversity loss is estimated at between US\$ 722 and US\$ 967 billion annually, compared with the current US\$ 124 to US\$ 143 billion;

RECALLING that official development assistance (ODA) for biodiversity is an essential financing lever and, according to this same report, represents between US\$4 and US\$10 billion per year;

RECALLING that, despite its overall increase of 22% between 2021 and 2022, official development assistance decreased by US\$ 4 billion in 70 developing countries;

SPECIFYING that the degradation of nature is an important factor in conflicts and instability;

INSPIRED by the principles of the World Charter for Nature (1982) that recognises that, “mankind is part of nature and life depends on the uninterrupted functioning of natural systems which ensure the supply of energy and nutrients”;

RECALLING Principles 23, 24 and 25 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development;

ALSO RECALLING Principles 16, 16.a, 16.b and 16.f of the Earth Charter;

AWARE that long-term peace and security depend on a productive environment capable of providing the ecosystem services necessary to sustain human well-being and the realisation of human rights;

FURTHER RECALLING that humanity as a whole depends on the biosphere;

RECALLING the need to contribute to the achievement of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), particularly Target 19; and

WELCOMING the decision to adopt the KMGBF, which “Urges Parties and other Governments, [...] to enable participation at all levels of government, with a view to fostering the full and effective contribution of women, youth, indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society organisations, the private and financial sectors, and stakeholders from all other sectors”;

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

1. ASKS donor States contributing to official development assistance:

a. to maintain ODA and other financial flows directed to civil society as tools for conserving biodiversity and the commons, in order to support people’s livelihoods in the event of geopolitical crises; and

b. if security conditions allow (taking into account safety, access, availability of goods and compatibility with applicable laws and regulations), consider the importance of maintaining its allocation to international and/or local civil society organisations committed to biodiversity conservation, which are recognised, already funded and have no links with political or military authorities;

2. URGES ODA recipient States to:

a. recognise the role of civil society engaged in the preservation of biodiversity and the commons;

b. not to unduly restrict the right of these civil society organisations to operate; and

c. support the work of these civil society organisations by promoting at least the security conditions necessary for their work; and

3. CALLS ON international and local civil society organisations to:

- a. develop partnerships for the transfer of skills from international civil society organisations to local civil society organisations on the management of security constraints and ODA;
- b. comply with the security requirements imposed by ODA contributing States;
- c. adopt and apply security rules for mobilised goods and persons; and
- d. apply international standards relating to the transparency and accountability of ODA use.