

## **084 Developing a circular and sustainable bioeconomy for sustainable food and agriculture**

RECOGNISING that bioeconomy covers all biomass production and transformation activities, whether forestry, agriculture or aquaculture, and represents new opportunities for farming and forestry operations;

AWARE that bioeconomy can contribute to more efficient, resilient, equitable and sustainable agri-food systems by ensuring greater food security, mitigating climate change, preserving biodiversity, addressing land degradation, stimulating economic growth, promoting innovation, optimising consumption of resources and reducing production of waste;

RECALLING that bioeconomy can protect the livelihoods of rural territories, particularly in least developed countries, and provide employment opportunities for women, young people, Indigenous peoples and Local communities (IPLCs);

WELCOMING the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in the field of bioeconomy and RECALLING that, according to it, bioeconomy is based on the production, use, conservation and regeneration of biological resources, including related knowledge, science, technology and innovations, to deliver sustainable solutions (information, products, processes and services) in all economic sectors and enable the transition to a sustainable economy; and

NOTING that bioeconomy is growing significantly, with strategies being implemented in 23 countries and three regions;

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

1. CALLS ON the Director General to support the dissemination and implementation of sustainable and circular bioeconomy practices in its projects and programmes for the protection and conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems;
2. ENCOURAGES States and IUCN Members to implement national policies, strategies and action plans on sustainable and circular bioeconomy, promoting inclusive stakeholder participation;
3. INVITES States and IUCN Members to consider sobriety, sustainability and circularity, which encompass recycling and optimising the use of biological resources throughout their life cycle;
4. INVITES States and IUCN Members to implement a circular and sustainable bioeconomy that gives high priority to food security, nutrition and ecosystem protection, taking into account all potential risks and effects of bioeconomy to biodiversity, through sustainable and resilient production systems;
5. ENCOURAGES States and IUCN Members to develop a sustainable and circular bioeconomy that is not only based on the research of new technologies, but also on traditional knowledge and the development of innovative Nature-based Solutions such as agroecology; and
6. INVITES States and IUCN Members to pursue research to develop transparent, comparable, measurable and science-based criteria and methodologies.