

096 Setting area-based targets on scientific evidence and reversing historic injustices

RECALLING Resolution 7.125 *Setting area-based conservation targets based on evidence of what nature and people need to thrive* (Marseille, 2020), calling on “all components of IUCN to recognise the evolving science, ... which supports that protecting, conserving and restoring at least half or more of the planet is likely necessary to reverse biodiversity loss ...”;

RECALLING ALSO Resolution 7.129 *Avoiding the point of no return in the Amazon protecting 80% by 2025* (Marseille, 2020), which “encourages ... resource mobilisation mechanisms, to increase support for direct, sustained and equitable financial and technical support, at least at a level equal to that invested in protected areas, to Indigenous peoples to conserve and sustainably manage their territories ...”;

RECONCILING these resolutions into a strategy that gives nature space to heal while also helping to heal from [grievous wounds caused by the] displacements of Indigenous peoples and Local communities (IPLCs);

OBSERVING that [promoting Indigenous peoples' cultural traditions and customs] [empowering traditional ways of life] is an inclusive way to significantly reduce the exploitation of nature;

CONSIDERING that protected areas, other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), and Indigenous and traditional territories are recognised as conservation tools in Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF);

RECALLING FURTHER the recognition of [the rights of Indigenous peoples, as well as local communities, including their] free, prior and informed consent [and the recognition and respect of rights of Indigenous peoples and Local communities] within the implementation of KMGBF Target 3;

[RECALLING that KMGBF Target 3 emphasises the importance of recognising and respecting the rights of Indigenous peoples [and Local communities];]

NOTING resolutions adopted at the 12th World Wilderness Congress (WILD12), which simultaneously called for strengthening traditional land tenure in tandem with resourcing and [capacity-building for] [capacitating] Indigenous peoples and Local communities to steward territories for the benefit of all life and to contribute to the [scientific consensus spatial target of at least half] [earth project];

ALSO NOTING the observation of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that “Maintaining the resilience of biodiversity and ecosystem services at a global scale depends on ... conservation of approximately 30% to 50% of Earth's land, freshwater and ocean areas ...”;

[ACKNOWLEDGING that the quality of nature is often directly related to the quantity of nature; and]

[RECOGNISING evidence that at least 30% and up to 70% of the world should be protected, conserved and restored to safeguard biodiversity and stabilise the climate;]

[UPHOLDING that Indigenous Peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with their traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands, territories, waters and coastal seas and other resources and to uphold their responsibilities to future generations in this regard, as stated in Article 25 in the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;]

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

1. ENCOURAGES relevant components of IUCN to [achieve the KMGBF Target of 30% and endeavour to surpass this target] [support an area-based target of at least 50%] [ensuring it is achieved through rights-based approaches that prioritise the legal recognition and protection of Indigenous peoples' and Local communities' rights to their territories] [and to recommend achieving this target including through the strengthening and expansion of Indigenous land tenure];

2. CALLS ON relevant components of IUCN to prioritise [the direct, sustained legal, financial and technical support] [resourcing and capacity-building] [capacitating] of Indigenous nations and communities [to uphold their governance systems, and continue achieving] [to achieve] conservation outcomes as a significant component of achieving the scientific target of at least [half] [30%];

3. ENCOURAGES IUCN State and Government Agency Members and other competent authorities to implement area-based targets in accordance with [human rights obligations including] the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and [in full observation of Section C of the] KMGBF, utilising methods appropriate to regional conditions through participatory, knowledge-based spatial planning processes that include identifying and conserving in protected areas, and OECMs [and Indigenous and traditional territories]:

- a. Key Biodiversity Areas and equivalent national priorities,
- b. areas important for ecological connectivity, including for migratory species;
- c. areas representative of all ecosystem types;
- d. remaining intact natural ecosystems, including globally significant areas of exceptional ecological integrity; and
- e. culturally important areas and species identified by Indigenous peoples [as well as] [and L]local communities; and

[4. REQUESTS all IUCN Members to support the achievement of the actions described above.]