

RES 3.018 Mobile peoples and conservation

UNDERSTANDING that the livelihoods of mobile peoples (e.g. nomadic pastoralists, shifting agriculturalists, hunter-gatherers, sea-nomads, indigenous peoples and transhumant herders) depend on extensive common property use of natural resources and that their mobility is both a management strategy for sustainable resource use and conservation and a distinctive source of cultural identity;

NOTING that since time immemorial, mobility has been a most effective component of community strategies for the conservation of wild and domestic biodiversity, the promotion of environmental integrity and the sustainable use of natural resources;

STRESSING that policies of mobility restriction and sedentarization have deprived mobile indigenous peoples of cultural identity, access to, and capacity to manage, natural resources, and have led them in many cases to destitution and abject poverty;

EMPHASIZING that, in the light of global environmental, economic and socio-cultural change and the growing role of transboundary and ecoregional conservation programmes, mobility is a major contemporary concern;

NOTING with appreciation IUCN Resolution 1.53 *Indigenous Peoples and Protected Areas* (Montreal, 1996); IUCN Recommendation 2.92 *Indigenous peoples, sustainable use of natural resources and international trade* (Amman, 2000); the principles of the *Dana Declaration on Mobile Peoples and Conservation* (Dana, Jordan, 2002); Recommendations V.26 *Community Conserved Areas* and V.27 *Mobile Indigenous Peoples and Conservation* noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress – WPC (Durban, 2003), as well as Outcome 3 *A global system of protected areas, with links to surrounding landscapes and seascapes is in place* and Outcome 5 *The rights of indigenous peoples, including mobile indigenous peoples, and local communities are secured in relation to natural resources and biodiversity conservation* of the WPC Durban Action Plan;

FURTHER NOTING the special reference to nomadic and pastoral communities made by the *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) adopted at the 7th Conference of Parties, (Kuala Lumpur, 2004) with regard to the need to promote an enabling environment (legislation, policies, capacities and resources) for the involvement of stakeholders in decision-making, and the development of their capacities and opportunities to establish and manage protected areas, including community conserved areas; and

WELCOMING the creation, on the occasion of the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress, of the World Alliance of Mobile Indigenous Peoples (WAMIP), whose objectives include conservation of biodiversity as well as maintaining sustainable livelihoods for mobile indigenous peoples;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17–25 November 2004:

1. NOTES the principles of the *Dana Declaration on Mobile Peoples and Conservation*;
2. COMMENDS the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) for the valuable work they have done to bring to the fore at the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress issues relating to mobile peoples and conservation;
3. URGES IUCN to assist its members in the implementation of the CBD *Programme of Work on Protected Areas*, and to provide technical leadership and support for understanding the relationship between mobile peoples and conservation; and
4. REQUESTS the IUCN Director General and Commissions:

(a) to incorporate, in the implementation of the *IUCN Intersessional Programme 2005–2008* and relevant Commission mandates, due recognition of mobile peoples, their needs and their capacity to conserve biodiversity;

(b) to articulate lessons learned and the potential to enhance conservation through mobile livelihoods, in particular with regard to:

(i) traditional knowledge and practices for adaptive management;

(ii) sustainable use of natural resources;

(iii) landscape conservation; and

(iv) community conserved areas in the migration territories of mobile peoples; and

(c) to develop conservation policies and practices that respond to those lessons and take advantage of the unique capacities of mobile peoples.

The Department of State, United States, provided the following statement for the record:

State and agency members United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolution Process.