



IUCN Resolutions, Recommendations and other Decisions

World Conservation Congress
Honolulu, Hawai'i, United States of America
6–10 September 2016



WCC-2016-Res-048-EN
International biofouling

RECALLING Recommendation 1.77 Marine Pollution and MARPOL (Montreal, 1996), strongly urging the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to work towards a binding framework to control the introduction of unwanted aquatic organisms from ballast water;

FURTHER RECALLING that Member States of the IMO committed to minimise the transfer of non-indigenous species in adopting the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004;

FURTHER RECALLING that the Marine Environment Protection Committee of the IMO adopted resolution MEPC.207(62), 2011, the first set of international recommendations for the control and management of vessel biofouling;

NOTING that Part XII, Section 1, Article 196 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) provides the global framework requiring states to work together to prevent, reduce, and control pollution of the marine environment;

FURTHER NOTING the Objectives of Article 1 of the Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992, and that the transfer and introduction of non-indigenous species through biofouling from ships threatens the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;

MINDFUL that 90% of world trade is carried by sea, demanding a globally consistent approach;

CONCERNED that biofouling of vessels is as harmful as ballast water discharge, a human-made vector for non-indigenous species;

RECOGNISING that implementing practices to control and manage biofouling of ships can reduce the spread of non-indigenous species, and reduce ship-borne greenhouse gas emissions through greater hydrodynamic performance;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that the interconnection of ports worldwide justifies the development and implementation of mandatory international biofouling standards; and

AWARE OF the substantial steps taken by Australia, New Zealand, and several jurisdictions in the United States to address and implement biofouling management;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Hawai'i, United States of America, 1-10 September 2016:

1. CALLS ON the Director General to:

a. promote and support cooperation among Members, governments, the business sector, stakeholders and academia for the exchange of information, knowledge, technology, and best practices to prevent non-indigenous species introduction through biofouling; and

b. urge governments to create and implement legal frameworks to share responsibility for the prevention of non-indigenous species introduction through biofouling;

2. URGES all Members to recognise the urgent need for international coordination and cooperation to address biofouling;

3. STRONGLY URGES the IMO to work towards establishing mandatory measures to address the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens from ship biofouling; and

WCC-2016-Res-049-EN

Promoting regional approaches to tackle the global problem of marine debris (litter)

RECOGNISING the contribution of IUCN's Global Marine and Polar Programme, and many IUCN Members, to understanding of marine plastics and their environmental impacts;

NOTING that plastic debris has become a very serious problem affecting the marine environment, not only for coastal areas of developing countries that lack appropriate waste management infrastructure, but also for the world's oceans as a whole due to slowly degrading large plastic items generating microplastic particles that spread over long distances by wind- driven ocean surface layer circulation;

RECALLING Resolution 5.136 *Effective strategy and actions to address the worsening problem of petrochemical plastic and other solid wastes* (Jeju, 2012);

REAFFIRMING the commitment of United Nations Member States in 'The Future We Want' and 'Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development' to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources;

RECALLING United Nations General Assembly Resolution 70/235 *Oceans and the law of the sea*, which notes with concern that a range of human-related threats, including marine debris, may severely impact marine life and calls upon states and competent international organisations to cooperate and coordinate their research efforts to reduce these impacts and preserve the integrity of the whole marine ecosystem while fully respecting the mandates of relevant international organisations;

FURTHER RECALLING the ongoing work of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to better understand and reduce marine debris, including the adoption of United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) Resolution 1/6 *Marine plastic debris and microplastics* (2014), which called on the Executive Director of UNEP, in consultation with other relevant institutions and stakeholders, to undertake a study on marine plastic debris and marine microplastics, as well as UNEA 2 Resolution UNEP/EA.2/L.11/Rev.1 *Oceans and Seas* (2016);

WELCOMING the Global Partnership on Marine Litter's work to support this study;

EMPHASISING the importance of reducing the use of petrochemical plastics, especially related to the production of disposable items, and preventing their leakage into the environment, and of capturing the economic value of plastic wastes in order to incentivise plastic waste treatments and provide socio-economic benefits to local communities through processes such as conversion to materials or energy;

NOTING that scientific studies and the report of the first World Ocean Assessment underline the emerging problem of microplastic particles and express concern about the impact on the environment and potential impacts on human health from microplastics entering waterways and marine food chains; and

FURTHER NOTING that Fish Aggregation Devices (FADs), estimated at more than 100,000 in number, are set adrift in tropical oceans each year, with impacts on threatened marine species, including sharks, and that many of these FADs sink in the ocean or wash up on reefs;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Hawai'i, United States of America, 1-10 September 2016:

1. CALLS ON the Director General to:

WCC-2016-Res-065-EN

Community Based Natural Resource Management in the State of Hawai'i

NOTING that decentralised management enables local people to address unique social, political, and ecological problems and to find solutions ideal to their situation;

FURTHER NOTING that community based natural resources management (CBNRM) projects are beneficial for the environment and partnerships between wildlife and communities;

RECOGNISING the contemporary importance of indigenous Hawaiian principles such as kuleana (the indivisibility of rights and responsibilities) and aloha 'āina (the love of the land which feeds) to the well-being of Hawai'i and the world;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that the indigenous people of Hawai'i developed a culture of environmental interdependence, achieving an abundance of resources that sustained a population near current levels;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that the State of Hawai'i's adoption of CBNRM projects and indigenous Hawaiian resource management knowledge, principles, and practices furthers the spirit of reconciliation expressed in the United States' formal apology resolution in 1993 to Native Hawaiians on behalf of the people of the United States for the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii on January 17, 1893 with the participation of agents and citizens of the United States, and the deprivation of the rights of Native Hawaiians to self-determination;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that Article XII Section 7 of the Hawai'i Constitution protects Native Hawaiian customary and traditional rights, and supports land and marine laws and programmes that empower community input and CBNRM;

AWARE that Hawaii's voyaging canoe Hōkūle'a is sailing around the globe, bringing the message of Mālama Honua (Care for the Earth) from Hawai'i to the world;

RECALLING that past IUCN Resolutions, 5.077 *Promoting Locally Managed Marine Areas as a socially inclusive approach to meeting area-based conservation and Marine Protected Area targets* and 5.092 *Promoting and supporting community resource management and conservation as a foundation for sustainable development* (Jeju, 2012) support indigenous co-governance and CBNRM as a foundation for sustainable development;

COMMENDING the State of Hawai'i for passage of the milestone 2015 Community Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) rules for Hā'ena, Kaua'i; and

CELEBRATING Hawai'i's application of CBNRM principles as an example for the United States and the world;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Hawai'i, United States of America, 1-10 September 2016:

1. REQUESTS IUCN, its Commissions and Members, to recognise and promote CBNRM principles that support the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources by the local community, through adopting and applying local and traditional knowledge, and through customary institutions and regulations;
2. CALLS UPON the Director General to send notice of support of CBNRM to the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, its Department of Land and Natural Resources, Hawai'i Legislators and Congressional delegation, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and all County Mayors and Councils;

WCC-2016-Res-075-EN

Affirmation of the role of indigenous cultures in global conservation efforts

NOTING that while the world seeks innovative approaches to sustainable development, indigenous peoples and local communities can provide examples of sustainability to serve as global models, including by means of their traditional knowledge;

RECOGNISING that the scope of indigenous knowledge is broad, including native species diversity, ecological processes and patterns, and land and sea management practices that are applicable today;

ALSO RECOGNISING that prior to Western contact, the indigenous people of Hawai'i sustained a population of up to one million people through the ahupua'a system of land management, which integrated land and sea ecosystems and relationships within a shared geographic, social, cultural, and political context;

NOTING Resolution 5.095 *Traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local peasant communities in the Andes and the Amazon Rainforest as a mechanism for adaptation to climate change* (Jeju, 2012);

NOTING Resolutions 4.055 *Integrating culture and cultural diversity into IUCN's policy and Programme* and 4.099 *Recognition of the diversity of concepts and values of nature* (Barcelona, 2008);

NOTING Resolution 4.052 *Implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP) (Barcelona, 2008); and

ACKNOWLEDGING that the integration of indigenous peoples' and local communities' approaches and knowledge systems with other conservation efforts is essential to achieve sustainable development;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Hawai'i, United States of America, 1-10 September 2016:

1. INVITES the Director General and Council to acknowledge the value of indigenous peoples' and local communities' approaches and knowledge systems in helping to address the challenges facing our global ecosystems, and that working with indigenous knowledge holders appropriately to integrate their values and approaches into modern conservation efforts can greatly enhance the long-term success of conservation;
2. REQUESTS the Director General and the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) to develop voluntary guidelines regarding the appropriate participation of indigenous peoples in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of conservation projects, programmes and policies; and
3. INVITES the Council and Members to acknowledge and respect indigenous values that build appreciation and responsibility for care of natural resources through learning the regional history of indigenous peoples' and local communities' relationships with lands and waters of conservation value and by working to rebuild and maintain the relationships with indigenous peoples and local communities.

WCC-2016-Res-094-EN

Support for increased conservation effort for Hawai'i's threatened birds

RECOGNISING the mission of IUCN in promoting the conservation of biological diversity;

AWARE that island species are vulnerable to invasive predators and diseases, and that native Hawaiian birds are among the most challenging to conserve given the severity of threats they face, and the diversity of invasive species and pathogens present in Hawai'i;

ALSO AWARE of the impact of climate change on many native Hawaiian birds, including with warmer temperatures the climb of disease-carrying mosquitoes into previously disease-free elevations impacting crucial bird habitat;

CONCERNED that these drivers have contributed to placing the United States among the countries with the fastest declines in native avian species abundance and status in the Red List Index;

REMINDED that conservation technology is catching up with the challenge, and that a number of specific techniques, such as habitat restoration, fencing, translocation and predator control/eradication, are already successfully benefitting the conservation, restoration and recovery of Hawai'i's birds;

NOTING that resources available for the recovery of Hawai'i's threatened birds are currently insufficient;

ALSO RECOGNISING the critically important role played by native birds in traditional Hawaiian culture, and the importance of native birds in the ecology of Hawaiian forests, wetlands and other ecosystems as pollinators, dispersers, and members of the overall food web;

ALARMED at the continuing recent declines evident in Hawaiian birds despite current conservation efforts, especially forest birds on Kaua'i where extinctions of two species may be imminent without significantly expanded urgent action, and noting the recent publication of new alarming evidence confirming the continued rapid decline among Kaua'i's forest birds; and

WELCOMING the many existing public and non-profit initiatives aimed at stemming Hawaiian bird declines, the interest of the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) in this issue, and the recent initiative by the State of Hawai'i to strengthen biosecurity;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Hawai'i, United States of America, 1-10 September 2016:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to support SSC in engaging with existing initiatives to help advance Hawaiian bird conservation, and form a new working group of stakeholders to elevate the issue, support conservation implementation, and report on progress – including to the 2020 IUCN World Conservation Congress;
2. CALLS ON the Governments of the United States and the State of Hawai'i to urgently and fully implement the Hawaiian Bird Conservation Action Plan, Hawaiian Forest Bird Recovery Plan, and other relevant Hawaiian bird recovery plans, to seek additional resources from partners as are needed to avoid any additional bird extinctions and declines in the Hawaiian Islands, and to expedite the review, exploration and development of all appropriate techniques to control or eradicate invasive alien mosquitoes and other invasive alien species;
3. RECOMMENDS that Hawaiian birds be formally recognised as a part of the U.S. avifauna, and included in appropriate lists of birds maintained by relevant institutions, such as conservation organisations and birdwatching organisations, sufficient to increase the focus of appropriate constituencies on these birds and their conservation; and

WCC-2016-Rec-097-EN

Pacific region climate resiliency action plan

RECOGNISING that the Pacific Region, including the Pacific Islands and continental areas, constitute a discrete region sharing similar environmental, social, economic, and cultural challenges and opportunities;

NOTING WITH CONCERN that climate change threatens the livelihood of Pacific Island States, as well as numerous coastal communities on the continents of the Americas, Asia, and Australia;

AWARE of Climate Change Declarations made by Pacific Islands Forum Leaders, namely: Niue Declaration on Climate Change 2008, Majuro Declaration for Climate Leadership 2013 and Pacific Island Forum Leaders Declaration on Climate Change Action 2015;

ALSO AWARE of the 'Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006–2015' (PIFACC) and the draft 'Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific' (SRDP);

RECOGNISING the tradition of navigation among Pacific Island cultures, which the Polynesian Voyaging Society's World Wide Voyage has demonstrated to the world, as well as the interconnectedness of humankind across the Pacific Ocean, the largest ocean on the planet;

ALSO RECOGNISING the important role that organisations and fora such as the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) and the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Action Platform, and their relevant initiatives, play in fostering regional cooperation and action on climate change;

ALSO AWARE OF the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway;

NOTING that WCC presents an opportunity for countries of the Pacific region to agree to work together to improve Pacific climate resiliency efforts and to address common threats such as sea level rise, ocean acidification, pollution, displacement of indigenous culture, loss of biodiversity, overfishing, and natural disasters; and

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING the WCC can provide a major global forum to unite Pacific communities to consider a blueprint for a Pacific Region Climate Resiliency Agreement at future events such as the 2017 United Nations Oceans Summit, which will focus on ensuring actions by 2030 on United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG 14 – the 'Ocean Goal');

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Hawai'i, United States of America, 1-10 September 2016:

1. INVITES Members in Pacific Islands to develop a Pacific region climate resiliency action plan as a contribution towards the implementation of the Paris Agreement concluded at the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP21 – Paris, 2015) to address climate change in the Pacific region; and
2. ENCOURAGES Members in Pacific Islands to utilise SDG 14, to "Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources"; SDG 13, to "Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts"; their targets and other climate-related targets under the SDGs; as a basis on which to build a Pacific region climate resiliency action plan.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion (and amendment) for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

WCC-2016-Rec-109-EN

Aloha+ Challenge Model for Sustainable Development

NOTING that the planet is faced with urgent issues, such as climate change, urban growth, water scarcity, biodiversity loss, and poverty, which require collaborative solutions;

RECOGNISING the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity, with the ultimate goal to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, as an indispensable requirement for sustainable development;

ACKNOWLEDGING the Paris Agreement adopted by the 21st Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP21 – Paris, 2015);

AWARE that islands are particularly susceptible to climate change, and can demonstrate responses to complex global challenges;

NOTING that pre-contact, the Hawaiian Islands supported a population of up to one million people through sustainable management practices;

ALSO NOTING that the State of Hawai'i is a member of the Global Island Partnership, which co-develops 'challenges' that inspire leadership and catalyse commitments to build resilient communities through innovative partnerships and best practices;

RECOGNISING that the Aloha+ Challenge: A Culture of Sustainability, He Nohona 'Ae'oia, is a shared commitment by the State of Hawai'i signed by the Governor, all County Mayors, and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs in 2014, unanimously endorsed by the State Legislature, and supported by a network of public-private partners;

NOTING that the Aloha+ Challenge outlines six sustainability goals with specific targets to be achieved by 2030, including: clean energy, local food production, natural resource management, solid waste reduction, smart sustainable communities, and green workforce and education;

NOTING that the State of Hawai'i is an early sustainable development leader within the United States, with a focus on renewable energy, marine conservation, watershed protection, biosecurity and community-based sustainability initiatives;

ALSO RECOGNISING that at the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS Conference – Samoa, 2014), the United States Department of State announced the Aloha+ Challenge as a model for green growth that could be replicated regionally and globally; and

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Aloha+ Challenge aligns with the recently adopted United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Hawai'i, United States of America, 1-10 September 2016:

1. NOTES that the Aloha+ Challenge is a model that can be adapted to incorporate local values, cultures and contexts for the implementation of the SDGs; and
2. CALLS ON Members to support collaborative initiatives to adapt the Aloha+ Challenge framework for locally appropriate implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, fostering a global culture of sustainability for future generations.