

Supporting language diversity engendered by Commission volunteers

Proposed by International Association for Falconry & Conservation of Birds of Prey (IAF)

Accepting that conservation and sustainable use of nature depend on the actions of local and indigenous peoples;

Noting that the spread of democracy has increased the influence of local and indigenous peoples, and indeed of all communities, for supporting and respecting the implementation of nature conservation and sustainable use, and supporting the politicians that promote these activities;

Recognising that although the first language of science is English, the first language in local communities, where the science needs implementation through actions for conservation and sustainable use, is highly diverse;

Appreciating that IUCN is so respected as the voice of integrated conservation science that it is the only international observer organization in the UN General Assembly with expertise in issues concerning the environment, specifically biodiversity, nature conservation and sustainable natural resource use.

Further appreciating that "Multilingualism" in international conservation efforts offers benefits because, if properly managed, it includes all parties in decision-making, promotes consensus, supports programme delivery, and aids dissemination of results; thus, it favours social justice and inclusivity;

Further understanding that the UN recognises that multilingualism, as a core value of the UN, is a potential source of strength (UN Resolution 56/262. Multilingualism). Furthermore, the UN recognises multilingualism as a means of promoting, protecting and preserving diversity of languages and cultures globally, also promotes unity in diversity and international understanding (Aarhus Convention 1998);

Recalling Resolution 3.031 "Cherishing volunteers" from IUCN WCC3 (2004) supporting Commission volunteers, noting the value of expert volunteers;

And commending the work of Commissions: CEM, CEESP and SSC, to reach communities in more than 40 global languages through www.sakernet.org, www.perdixnet.org, www.naturalliance.org and other multilingual portals.

The World Conservation Congress at its 7th Session in Marseilles, France, 4-11 June 2020:

Recommends Council and Secretariat to help Commission on Ecosystem Management to explain to the United Nations and its Agencies the importance of communicating the science for conservation and sustainable use of nature in as many global languages as possible.

Urges States, their Agencies, and NGOs who are members of IUCN to support financially the language diversity engendered by Commission volunteers to promulgate transformative science-based conservation and best-practice in sustainable use to communities worldwide