



**IUCN WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS**  
**3–10 September 2021, Marseille, France**

## **Motion calling for an online vote on all motions following the Congress**

**Action Requested:** The IUCN World Conservation Congress is invited to CONSIDER the motion submitted on 1 September 2021 by 13 IUCN Members as a proposal to amend the Rules of Procedure in order to refer all motions tabled at the Congress to an online vote within one month from the end of the Congress, as revised by Council during its 105<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 2 September 2021.

The IUCN Council,

*Having considered* the proposal from 13 IUCN Members submitted to it on 1 September 2021 (copy attached) to amend the Rules of Procedure in order to exceptionally submit the motions tabled at the 2021 World Conservation Congress (i.e. draft Resolutions and Recommendations, and proposed amendments to the IUCN Statutes) to an online vote within one month after the closing of the Congress, to enable all IUCN Members to participate equally in the decision-making of the Union, as well as the letter from 7 IUCN Members from Africa received on 31 August 2021 requesting an online vote on motions for the same reasons;

*Decides* to forward the proposal to the Congress, revised into a motion that achieves the same objective but through a *one-off* decision instead of inscribing the exceptional circumstances of the 2021 Congress into the Rules of Procedure as follows:

The IUCN World Conservation Congress,

HAVING CONSIDERED the proposal from the IUCN Council in response to the requests from a number of IUCN Members to exceptionally submit the motions tabled at the 2021 World Conservation Congress (i.e. draft Resolutions and Recommendations, and proposed amendments to the IUCN statutes) to an online vote within one month after the closing of the Congress, to enable all IUCN Members to participate equally in the decision making of the Union;

DECIDES, in view of the exceptional circumstances linked to the COVID-19 pandemic, to submit all motions that do not require immediate decision of the Members Assembly and pertain to defining the general policy of IUCN (Resolutions), influencing the policies and actions of third parties (Recommendations) and addressing the governance of IUCN pursuant to article 20 a) and b) of IUCN Statutes and Rule 48bis to an online vote in accordance with Regulations 94, albeit with shorter deadlines and without previous online discussion. The text of the motions submitted to such online vote will be the text tabled by the Resolutions Committee, following discussion in contact groups, for discussion in plenary but not for the vote. New and urgent motions shall in principle be referred to the online vote except if the Resolutions Committee finds a specific motion urgent (to be decided on a case by case basis) and advises the Members' Assembly to vote on it immediately;

REQUESTS the Secretariat to make all necessary preparations for the online vote to open within one month from the end of the Congress; and

DECIDES that this decision enters into effect immediately.

*Decides* to inscribe this motion in the Draft Agenda of the Congress.

**From:** [Vance Martin](#)  
**To:** [President - IUCN](#); \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Cc:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Subject:** Proposed Amendment to Rules of Procedure, WCC, Part VIII -Methods of Voting  
**Date:** 01 September 2021 22:34:17

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Dear IUCN Director General, IUCN President and Council Members,

The IUCN Members listed below are deeply concerned that many IUCN members could not be present at this World Conservation Congress. We also recognize that the pandemic and the unequal access to vaccination has created unacceptable inequity in Members' representation and effective participation at this Congress.

We believe it imperative that this be addressed without delay in order to ensure that the decisions we take at this Congress reflect the will of all the Members and not only of the privileged ones able to attend. Many of the motions on the agenda of this Congress are important and would either result in substantive changes to IUCN's governance or set critical policies for the Union for the years to come, and it is imperative that these decisions are taken in a way that enables all Members to participate. Because of the difficulties involved in rapid communications on complex issues, voting through proxies does not provide an equal voice for the Members who cannot be present in Marseille.

We hereby move to amend the Rules of Procedures of the World Conservation Congress, as provided for in Article 29 b) of the IUCN statutes, with a view to ensuring that this motion is presented to the Members' assembly for adoption at the earliest opportunity.

This amendment is to enter into force immediately upon adoption, and is to be applicable only for the 2021 World Conservation Congress.

## ***Proposed amendment to the Rules of Procedures of the World Conservation Congress***

### ***Part VIII - Methods of Voting***

"Exceptionally, for the 2021 World Conservation Congress, and to enable all IUCN members to participate equally in the decision making of the Union, voting on all motions to be adopted by the Congress, (i.e. draft resolutions and recommendations, and proposed amendments to the IUCN statutes), will be organized online no later than one month after the end of the Congress."

We urgently request you to consider this matter at the 105<sup>th</sup> Council meeting on 02 September 2021.

Sincerely,

- WILD Foundation (USA) – Mr. Vance Martin ([vance@wild.org](mailto:vance@wild.org))
- A Rocha International (UK) – Mr Simon Stuart ([simon.stuart@arocha.org](mailto:simon.stuart@arocha.org)), Ms Sarah French ([sarah.french@arocha.org](mailto:sarah.french@arocha.org))
- Reforestamos (Mexico) – Mr Ernesto Herrera Guerra ([ernesto@reforestamos.org](mailto:ernesto@reforestamos.org))
- CORDIO (Kenya) - Mr David Obura ([dobura@cordioea.net](mailto:dobura@cordioea.net))
- Association Tunisienne de Taxonomie ATUTAX (Tunisia) – Ms Faouzia Charfi ([facharfi@yahoo.fr](mailto:facharfi@yahoo.fr))
- Association “Les Amis des Oiseaux” (Tunisia) - Mr Hichem Azafzaf ([azafzaf@gmail.com](mailto:azafzaf@gmail.com))
- Association pour la Protection de l'Environnement et le Développement Durable de Bizerte (Tunisia) – Ms. Majoua Bouraoui ([najwa\\_bourawi@yahoo.fr](mailto:najwa_bourawi@yahoo.fr))
- Exploralis (Tunisia) – Mr Arafet Ben Marzou ([benmarzou@exploralis.org](mailto:benmarzou@exploralis.org))
- Al Shouf Cedar Society (Lebanon ) – Mr Nizar Hani ([nizar@shoufcedar.org](mailto:nizar@shoufcedar.org))
- World Resources Institute (USA) – Mr Charles Barber ([Charles.barber@wri.org](mailto:Charles.barber@wri.org))
- Wilderness Foundation Africa (South Africa) – Ms Candice Stevens ([candice@wfa.africa](mailto:candice@wfa.africa))
- Wildlife Conservation Trust (India) – Dr. Anish Andheria ([Anish@wctindia.org](mailto:Anish@wctindia.org))
- Synchronicity Earth (UK) – Ms Gemma Goodman ([gemma@synchronicityearth.org](mailto:gemma@synchronicityearth.org))

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## Vance G. Martin

President, WILD Foundation  
Chair, Wilderness Specialist Group, IUCN

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