Report to the World Conservation Congress
by the Election Officer, Professor Denise E. Antolini

1. In accordance with Regulation 28 (b), the IUCN Council at its 96th Meeting in March 2019 appointed me as Election Officer for the 2020 World Conservation Congress and confirmed my Terms of Reference.

2. In accordance with Regulation 37, by a letter dated 20 August 2019, the Acting Director General invited all Members eligible to vote in Categories A, B and C to submit online nominations of candidates for election as Regional Councillors. In accordance with Regulation 38, the Council determined 11 December 2019, noon GMT/UTC to be the deadline for these nominations. Two reminders were subsequently sent to IUCN Members on 14 October and 12 November 2019.

3. An additional message was sent to all IUCN Members on 8 December 2019 on my behalf regarding the gender balance of nominations (10 of 24 nominees at that time were women). The email reminded all Members of the Council’s Gender Strategy, stating: “Paragraph 19 of the Strategy for gender responsive Congresses, approved by the Council in March 2019, requests that Members be encouraged to nominate female/male candidates for Council in cases where there is an imbalance in nominations. As such, the Election Officer would like to take this opportunity to remind Members that they have until 11 December 2019 to improve the balance further.”

4. By 11 December 2019 at noon, valid nominations had been received for 40 candidates for all 28 Regional Councillor positions and the nominations process was closed.

5. The nominations process for Regional Councillor was automated for the first time through the Congress Portal. Previously, the numerous nominations for Regional Councillor were reviewed and processed manually, which consumed substantial staff time and slowed down the validation process. As the process began to be utilised by nominators and nominees, issues were identified and resolved. This experience will be included in the overall nominations process “lessons learnt” document and for the 2024 Congress.

6. I reviewed the information submitted by each candidate and nominator in the online platform and assessed the validity of the 43 nominations received in light of the requirements stated in the IUCN Statutes and Regulations.

7. A handful of nominations were not validated for the following reasons:

   i. A nomination was not supported by five Members eligible to vote in a Region (Regulation 38 requires that "nominations for candidates from a Region for election as Regional Councillors shall be made by five Members eligible to vote");

   ii. A nomination was made by Members from only one state in a Region (Regulation 38 requires that nominations be "drawn from more than one State");

---

1 On 23 March 2021, the IUCN Council appointed Dr Nilufer Oral as IUCN World Conservation Congress Elections Officer and Dr Rahmat Mohamad as Deputy Elections Officer, replacing Professor Denise E. Antolini, who resigned in December 2020 (see CGR.2021-4.4/1-Annex 3).

2 IUCN Members in Category A, B or C who have paid their membership dues up to and including 2018 in full.
iii. A profile for the nominee was not completed by the deadline, e.g., it lacked required biographical data or the signed declaration of willingness to serve (Regulation 35 requires that "All proposals and nominations shall be submitted with a curriculum vitae of the candidate and a written declaration of willingness to serve if elected")

iv. The invalidated nominee declined, or was unable, to demonstrate compliance with the nomination requirements by the 11 December 2019 deadline despite my notification to the individual of a three-week extension of time to provide the evidence allowed under Regulation 40.

8. Pursuant to Regulation 40, nominations of candidates (i.e. name, photo and biographical information) were communicated via the Congress Portal as and when I declared them "validated," that is, in compliance with the requirements laid out in the IUCN Statutes and Regulations. The profiles of nominees remain accessible to all IUCN Members and are also now open to the public on the Congress web site.

9. The names of all candidates for Regional Councillor are listed hereafter in Attachment 1 in accordance with Regulation 40.

10. Candidates for each Region will appear on the Congress ballot list, in alphabetical order from a point in the alphabet chosen at random, per Regulation 40, as shown in Attachment 1 below.

11. In addition to my functions related to the nomination of candidates for election as Regional Councillors, I also discharged my function to receive all proposals for persons to be nominated by Council as candidates for election as President, Treasurer and Commission Chairs pursuant to Regulation 30, and to transmit to Council's Nominations Committee, in accordance with Regulation 35, the proposals that meet the requirements of the Statutes. Cf. Congress Document CGR-2021-3.1/1.
Attachment 1
Nominations for Regional Councillors

Candidates are listed per Region, with the number of seats to be filled and the total number of candidates for that region, in alphabetical order of surnames, starting at the letter "K" chosen by the Election Officer at random in accordance with Regulation 40. The figures in brackets after the name of each candidate indicate the number of valid nominations received for the candidate.

(a) Africa – 4 seats to be filled, 8 candidates
KAKA Ali, Kenya (6)
MELIANE Imên, Tunisia (11)
NIANOOGO Aimé Joseph, Burkina Faso (5)
ROGER Ngoufo, Cameroon (5)
UJOR Gloria, Nigeria (6)
CHILD Brian, Zimbabwe (5)
EJIGU Mersie, Ethiopia (5)
FIT T Neil, Botswana (5)

(b) Meso and South America – 4 seats to be filled, 4 candidates
PEREZGIL Ramón, Mexico (12)
SU CRE, Bibiana, Venezuela (5)
CEREZO BLANDON Marco Vinicio, Guatemala (6)
DI PANGRACIO Ana, Argentina (5)

(c) North America and the Caribbean – 3 seats to be filled, 3 candidates
INCHAUSTEGUI MIRANDA Sixto J., Dominican Republic (9)
LIEBERMAN Susan, USA (6)
BATES Frederick (Rick), Canada (5)

(d) South and East Asia – 5 seats to be filled, 9 candidates
HAMZAH Amran, Malaysia (6)
HOSHINO Kazuaki, Japan (5)
MA Keping, China (21)
MENON Vivek, India (13)
MOUDUD Hasna Jasimuddin, Bangladesh (7)
NOSHIRWANI Meher Marker, Pakistan (6)
SHAKYA Mangal Man, Nepal (8)
TIMALSINA Kiran, Nepal (6)
Y OON Jong Soo, Republic of Korea (5)

(e) West Asia – 3 seats to be filled, 4 candidates
RABI Ayman, Palestine (5)
REDWAN Zaher, Lebanon (5)
AL DHAHERI Shaikha Salem, Abu Dhabi, UAE (8)
DAMHOUREYEH Said Ahmad, Jordan (9)
(f) Oceania – 3 seats to be filled, 3 candidates
IORNS Catherine, New Zealand (8)
MAJEKOBAJE Bola¹, Palau (8)
COCHRANE Peter, Australia (7)

(g) East Europe, North and Central Asia – 3 seats to be filled, 3 candidates
KISZEL Vilmos, Hungary (5)
SMARANDA Samad-John, Romania (6)
ARMIRGULASHVILI Carl, Georgia (5)

(h) West Europe – 3 seats to be filled, 6 candidates
LELIEVRE Maud, France (5)
VIE Jean-Christophe, France (7)
WESTERBERG Jan Olov, Sweden (9)
CASTAÑEDA RIAL Sonia, Spain (6)
EGGERMONT Hilde, Belgium (10)
FRIEDERICCH Hans, the Netherlands (6)

¹ Ms Bola Majekobaje withdrew her candidacy in March 2021 for personal reasons and circumstances related to the pandemic and was replaced by a new candidate (see CGR.2021-4.4/1-Annex 2-Rev, page 23).