



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

**Proposed amendments to the IUCN Statutes, Rules of Procedure of
the World Conservation Congress and the IUCN Regulations:
Establishment of an elected Indigenous Councillor position**

ADOPTED MOTION

The IUCN World Conservation Congress,

Adopts the following amendments to the IUCN Statutes, including Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress, and Regulations: (*cf. Table attached hereafter as Annex 1*)

[...]

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Background

1. At the IUCN World Conservation Congress in 2016, the IUCN Members' Assembly adopted a landmark decision for indigenous peoples and conservation. Members voted to create a new category of IUCN membership for Indigenous Peoples' Organisations (IPO), strengthening the recognition of their rights, participation, voice and role in IUCN ([WCC-2016-Res-004](#)). The establishment of this new category marked a milestone in the 70-year history of IUCN, since for the first time IUCN reformed its membership structure and did so especially to recognise the specific situation and role of IPOs.
2. As a distinct and mobilized constituency within IUCN, IPO Members developed a self-determined strategy identifying joint priorities for advancing indigenous rights and issues in conservation and at IUCN.
3. The IPO Member strategy includes the objective set by IPO Members to increase indigenous participation in IUCN's governance and, in particular, ensuring indigenous representation on IUCN's Council, as key priorities. The IUCN Council is the principal governing body of IUCN in between sessions of the World Conservation Congress and is tasked with setting strategic direction and policy guidance for the work of the Union, subject to the authority, direction and policy of the World Conservation Congress. As such, IUCN IPO Members consider it essential for clear indigenous representation on Council from the new IPO Member Category.
4. The current Council appointed to Council an indigenous representative, Mr Francisco Ramiro Batzin Chojoj, under Article 38(f) of the Statutes regarding the composition of Council ([Council decision C94/20, May 2018](#)):

“one additional appointed Councillor, chosen by the Council on the basis of appropriate qualifications, interests and skills.”

5. Past Councils have had representation from indigenous peoples with the appointments of Mary Simon from 1994–1996 (Inuit, Canada), Henrietta Rasmussen from 1997–2000 (Inuit, Greenland, Denmark), and Aroha Mead from 2001–2008 (Maori, New Zealand) and as Chair of the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) from 2009–2016. While Aroha Mead served on Council for 16 years, her first two terms were as an indigenous appointed Councillor and her last two were as Chair of CEESP where, until September 2016, she also brought an indigenous perspective to Council. Throughout this time, however, IUCN Statutes have never been amended to establish an elected Indigenous Councillor position.

6. Given the new Member Category, IPO Members request the Members' Assembly to amend IUCN Statutes to allow for the creation of an elected Indigenous Councillor position. An elected Indigenous Councillor position would:

- ensure full and effective participation of indigenous peoples;
- support and advance IUCN's significant indigenous mandate;
- facilitate reporting on the implementation of the IPO Member strategy;
- improve regional and global coordination with current and potential IPO Members and partners; and
- make visible and help to effectively apply the wealth of traditional and indigenous knowledge and systems for the use, management and conservation of natural resources, IUCN strategies and actions at the regional and global level.

7. The proposal to establish an elected Indigenous Councillor position was presented by members of Council to all Regional Conservation Forums (RCF) held in 2019, and posted online for comments until 15 September 2019.

8. The proposal has been prepared as proposed amendments to the IUCN Statutes, including Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress and Regulations (Annex 1) by a small working group of the IUCN Council's Governance and Constituency Committee led by Councillor Ramiro Batzin, taking into account the comments received from IUCN Members.

9. If the motion related to the modification of the term "Regional Councillor" is adopted in the form as proposed by the IUCN Council, articles 12, 20, 28, 38 and 41 of the Statutes; Rule 81; and Regulations 37, 38 and 40, amongst others, will present additional changes which are not shown in Annex 1.

Entry into effect

10. Unless decided otherwise by the Congress, the proposed amendments, if adopted, will come into effect at the end of the Congress.

Proposed amendments to the IUCN Statutes, the Rules of Procedure of the IUCN World Conservation Congress and the IUCN Regulations regarding the establishment of an elected Indigenous Councillor position

Amendment #	Existing provisions of the IUCN Statutes	Amendments (with track changes)	New version of the IUCN Statutes as amended (all track changes 'accepted')
1.	<p>Part III – Members</p> <p><u>Rights and Obligations of Members</u></p> <p>Article 12 of the IUCN Statutes</p> <p>(a) Members shall have the right <i>inter alia</i>: [...]</p> <p>(b) Members in Categories A, B and C shall also have the right:</p> <p>(i) to propose to the Council candidates for President, Treasurer and Chairs of the Commissions to be elected by the World Congress;</p> <p>(ii) to nominate candidates directly to the World Congress for election as President;</p> <p>(iii) to nominate to the World Congress candidates for election as Regional Councillors;</p> <p>(iv) to submit motions to the World Congress; and</p> <p>(v) to vote in sessions of the World Congress or by mail ballot.</p> <p>(c) Members shall have the obligation <i>inter alia</i>: [...]</p>	<p>Part III – Members</p> <p><u>Rights and Obligations of Members</u></p> <p>Article 12 of the IUCN Statutes</p> <p>(a) Members shall have the right <i>inter alia</i>: [...]</p> <p>(b) Members in Categories A, B and C shall also have the right:</p> <p>(i) to propose to the Council candidates for President, Treasurer and Chairs of the Commissions to be elected by the World Congress;</p> <p>(ii) to nominate candidates directly to the World Congress for election as President;</p> <p>(iii) to nominate to the World Congress candidates for election as Regional Councillors and the Indigenous Councillor;</p> <p>(iv) to submit motions to the World Congress; and</p> <p>(v) to vote in sessions of the World Congress or by mail ballot.</p> <p>(c) Members shall have the obligation <i>inter alia</i>: [...]</p>	<p>Part III – Members</p> <p><u>Rights and Obligations of Members</u></p> <p>Article 12 of the IUCN Statutes</p> <p>(a) Members shall have the right <i>inter alia</i>: [...]</p> <p>(b) Members in Categories A, B and C shall also have the right:</p> <p>(i) to propose to the Council candidates for President, Treasurer and Chairs of the Commissions to be elected by the World Congress;</p> <p>(ii) to nominate candidates directly to the World Congress for election as President;</p> <p>(iii) to nominate to the World Congress candidates for election as Regional Councillors and the Indigenous Councillor;</p> <p>(iv) to submit motions to the World Congress; and</p> <p>(v) to vote in sessions of the World Congress or by mail ballot.</p>

			(c) Members shall have the obligation <i>inter alia</i> : [...]
2.	<p>Part V – The World Conservation Congress</p> <p><u>Functions</u></p> <p>Article 20 of the IUCN Statutes</p> <p>The functions of the World Congress shall be <i>inter alia</i>: [...]</p> <p>(h) to elect the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors and Chairs of Commissions;</p> <p>[...]</p>	<p>Part V – The World Conservation Congress</p> <p><u>Functions</u></p> <p>Article 20 of the IUCN Statutes</p> <p>The functions of the World Congress shall be <i>inter alia</i>: [...]</p> <p>(h) to elect the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors, Indigenous Councillor and Chairs of Commissions;</p> <p>[...]</p>	<p>Part V – The World Conservation Congress</p> <p><u>Functions</u></p> <p>Article 20 of the IUCN Statutes</p> <p>The functions of the World Congress shall be <i>inter alia</i>: [...]</p> <p>(h) to elect the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors, Indigenous Councillor and Chairs of Commissions;</p> <p>[...]</p>
3.	<p>Article 28 of the IUCN Statutes</p> <p><u>Elections</u></p> <p>The Regional Councillors shall be elected by the World Congress in accordance with Article 39 and the Regulations.</p>	<p>Article 28 of the IUCN Statutes</p> <p><u>Elections</u></p> <p>The Regional Councillors and the Indigenous Councillor shall be elected by the World Congress in accordance with Article 39 and the Regulations.</p>	<p>Article 28 of the IUCN Statutes</p> <p><u>Elections</u></p> <p>The Regional Councillors and the Indigenous Councillor shall be elected by the World Congress in accordance with Article 39 and the Regulations.</p>
4.	<p>Part VI – The Council</p> <p><u>Composition</u></p> <p>Article 38 of the IUCN Statutes</p> <p>The members of the Council are:</p> <p>(a) the President;</p>	<p>Part VI – The Council</p> <p><u>Composition</u></p> <p>Article 38 of the IUCN Statutes</p> <p>The members of the Council are:</p> <p>(a) the President;</p>	<p>Part VI – The Council</p> <p><u>Composition</u></p> <p>Article 38 of the IUCN Statutes</p> <p>The members of the Council are:</p> <p>(a) the President;</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (b) the Treasurer; (c) the Chairs of the Commissions; (d) the Regional Councillors; (e) a Councillor from the State in which IUCN has its seat, appointed by the Council, provided that one from that State has not been elected Regional Councillor; and (f) one additional appointed Councillor, chosen by the Council on the basis of appropriate qualifications, interests and skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (b) the Treasurer; (c) the Chairs of the Commissions; (d) the Regional Councillors; (e) <u>the Indigenous Councillor</u>; (f) a Councillor from the State in which IUCN has its seat, appointed by the Council, provided that one from that State has not been elected Regional Councillor; and (f)(g) one additional appointed Councillor, chosen by the Council on the basis of appropriate qualifications, interests and skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (b) the Treasurer; (c) the Chairs of the Commissions; (d) the Regional Councillors; (e) the Indigenous Councillor; (f) a Councillor from the State in which IUCN has its seat, appointed by the Council, provided that one from that State has not been elected Regional Councillor; and (g) one additional appointed Councillor, chosen by the Council on the basis of appropriate qualifications, interests and skills.
5.	<p>Article 41 of the IUCN Statutes:</p> <p>The terms of office of the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors and Chairs of Commissions shall extend from the close of the ordinary session of the World Congress at which they are elected, until the close of the next ordinary session of the World Congress. The appointed Councillor shall serve for the remainder of the term for which the other Councillors are elected.</p>	<p>Article 41 of the IUCN Statutes:</p> <p>The terms of office of the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors, <u>Indigenous Councillor</u> and Chairs of Commissions shall extend from the close of the ordinary session of the World Congress at which they are elected, until the close of the next ordinary session of the World Congress. The appointed Councillor shall serve for the remainder of the term for which the other Councillors are elected.</p>	<p>Article 41 of the IUCN Statutes:</p> <p>The terms of office of the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors, Indigenous Councillor and Chairs of Commissions shall extend from the close of the ordinary session of the World Congress at which they are elected, until the close of the next ordinary session of the World Congress. The appointed Councillor shall serve for the remainder of the term for which the other Councillors are elected.</p>

Amendment #	Existing provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the IUCN World Conservation Congress	Amendments (with track changes)	New version of the Rules of Procedure as amended (all track changes 'accepted')
1.	<p>Part IX – Elections</p> <p><u>Nominations and Method of Voting in Elections</u></p> <p>Rule 78 of the Rules of Procedure</p> <p>The elections of the President, the Treasurer and each of the Chairs of the Commissions shall be conducted separately and as follows:</p> <p>(a) the President and the Treasurer may be elected by acclamation;</p> <p>(b) where a vote is required and there is only one candidate for a post, if that candidate does not receive a simple majority of votes cast by Members eligible to vote in Category A and in Categories B and C combined, the post shall be filled by the World Congress or, failing a decision by the closure of the session, by the new Council; and</p> <p>(c) where there is more than one candidate for any of these posts a vote shall be taken in accordance with Rule 81.</p>	<p>Part IX – Elections</p> <p><u>Nominations and Method of Voting in Elections</u></p> <p>Rule 78 of the Rules of Procedure</p> <p>The elections of the President, the Treasurer, and each of the Chairs of the Commissions <u>and the Indigenous Councillor</u> shall be conducted separately and as follows:</p> <p>(a) the President and the Treasurer may be elected by acclamation;</p> <p>(b) where a vote is required and there is only one candidate for a post, if that candidate does not receive a simple majority of votes cast by Members eligible to vote in Category A and in Categories B and C combined, the post shall be filled by the World Congress or, failing a decision by the closure of the session, by the new Council; and</p> <p>(c) where there is more than one candidate for any of these posts a vote shall be taken in accordance with Rule 81.</p>	<p>Part IX – Elections</p> <p><u>Nominations and Method of Voting in Elections</u></p> <p>Rule 78 of the Rules of Procedure</p> <p>The elections of the President, the Treasurer, each of the Chairs of the Commissions and the Indigenous Councillor shall be conducted separately and as follows:</p> <p>(a) the President and the Treasurer may be elected by acclamation;</p> <p>(b) where a vote is required and there is only one candidate for a post, if that candidate does not receive a simple majority of votes cast by Members eligible to vote in Category A and in Categories B and C combined, the post shall be filled by the World Congress or, failing a decision by the closure of the session, by the new Council; and</p> <p>(d) where there is more than one candidate for any of these posts a vote shall be taken in accordance with Rule 81.</p>

2.	<p>Rule 79 of the Rules of Procedure</p> <p>Should a sole candidate for the post of the President, Treasurer or Chair of Commission withdraw or become ineligible, the Council shall meet in extraordinary session and, having considered the views of the Members of IUCN, shall propose a new candidate to the World Congress.</p>	<p>Rule 79 of the Rules of Procedure</p> <p>Should a sole candidate for the post of the President, Treasurer, or Chair of Commission <u>or Indigenous Councillor</u> withdraw or become ineligible, the Council shall meet in extraordinary session and, having considered the views of the Members of IUCN, shall propose a new candidate to the World Congress.</p>	<p>Rule 79 of the Rules of Procedure</p> <p>Should a sole candidate for the post of the President, Treasurer, Chair of Commission or Indigenous Councillor withdraw or become ineligible, the Council shall meet in extraordinary session and, having considered the views of the Members of IUCN, shall propose a new candidate to the World Congress.</p>
3.	<p>Rule 81 of the Rules of Procedure</p> <p>Where there is more than one candidate for the post of the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillor or Commission Chair:</p> <p>(a) the ballot paper or the electronic election system shall list candidates in alphabetical order from a point in the alphabet chosen at random;</p> <p>(b) where one person is to be elected from two or more candidates for the post of President, Treasurer or Chair of a Commission, the vote shall be cast by placing an 'X' against the name of the preferred candidate;</p> <p>[...]</p>	<p>Rule 81 of the Rules of Procedure</p> <p>Where there is more than one candidate for the post of the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillor, <u>Indigenous Councillor</u> or Commission Chair:</p> <p>(a) the ballot paper or the electronic election system shall list candidates in alphabetical order from a point in the alphabet chosen at random;</p> <p>(b) where one person is to be elected from two or more candidates for the post of President, Treasurer, or Chair of a Commission <u>or Indigenous Councillor</u>, the vote shall be cast by placing an 'X' against the name of the preferred candidate;</p> <p>[...]</p>	<p>Rule 81 of the Rules of Procedure</p> <p>Where there is more than one candidate for the post of the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillor, Indigenous Councillor or Commission Chair:</p> <p>(a) the ballot paper or the electronic election system shall list candidates in alphabetical order from a point in the alphabet chosen at random;</p> <p>(b) where one person is to be elected from two or more candidates for the post of President, Treasurer, Chair of a Commission or Indigenous Councillor, the vote shall be cast by placing an 'X' against the name of the preferred candidate;</p> <p>[...]</p>

Amendment #	Existing provisions of the IUCN Regulations	Amendments (with track changes)	New version of the Regulations as amended (all track changes 'accepted')
1.	<p>Part IV – The World Conservation Congress</p> <p><u>Elections: Regional Councillors</u></p> <p>Article 37 of the Regulations</p> <p>At least nine months before each ordinary session of the World Congress the Members in Categories A and B shall be invited by the Director General to submit to the Election Officer, the names of candidates for election as Regional Councillors. Such invitation shall be accompanied by a list of the Regional Councillors in office, indicating those who are eligible for re-election.</p>	<p>Part IV – The World Conservation Congress</p> <p><u>Elections: Regional Councillors and Indigenous Councillor</u></p> <p>Article 37 of the Regulations</p> <p>At least nine months before each ordinary session of the World Congress the Members in Categories A, <u>and B and C</u> shall be invited by the Director General to submit to the Election Officer, the names of candidates for election as Regional Councillors <u>and Indigenous Councillor</u>. Such invitation shall be accompanied by a list of the Regional Councillors <u>and Indigenous Councillor</u> in office, indicating those who are eligible for re-election.</p>	<p>Part IV – The World Conservation Congress</p> <p><u>Elections: Regional Councillors and Indigenous Councillor</u></p> <p>Article 37 of the Regulations</p> <p>At least nine months before each ordinary session of the World Congress the Members in Categories A, B and C shall be invited by the Director General to submit to the Election Officer, the names of candidates for election as Regional Councillors and Indigenous Councillor. Such invitation shall be accompanied by a list of the Regional Councillors and Indigenous Councillor in office, indicating those who are eligible for re-election.</p>
2.	<p>Article 38 of the Regulations</p> <p>Nominations for candidates from a Region for election as Regional Councillors shall be made by five Members eligible to vote or ten per cent of all such Members in that Region, whichever is lower, in both cases drawn from more than one State. For the purpose of nomination, an international non-governmental organisation whose constituency covers more than one Region shall be regarded as being located in the Region where its principal office is located. All nominations shall be submitted together with an abbreviated <i>curriculum vitae</i> for</p>	<p>Article 38 of the Regulations</p> <p>Nominations for candidates from a Region for election as Regional Councillors shall be made by five Members eligible to vote or ten per cent of all such Members in that Region, whichever is lower, in both cases drawn from more than one State. For the purpose of nomination, an international non-governmental organisation whose constituency covers more than one Region shall be regarded as being located in the Region where its principal office is located.</p> <p><u>Regulation 38bis</u></p>	<p>Article 38 of the Regulations</p> <p>Nominations for candidates from a Region for election as Regional Councillors shall be made by five Members eligible to vote or ten per cent of all such Members in that Region, whichever is lower, in both cases drawn from more than one State. For the purpose of nomination, an international non-governmental organisation whose constituency covers more than one Region shall be regarded as being located in the Region where its principal office is located.</p>

	<p>each candidate, supplied by that candidate. Each candidate shall declare in writing a willingness to serve if elected. The deadline for nominations shall be determined on each occasion by the Council.</p>	<p><u>Nominations of indigenous persons for candidates for the Indigenous Councillor position shall be made by five Members eligible to vote of which at least two are Members of Category C, drawn from more than one State.</u></p> <p><u>Regulation 38ter</u></p> <p>All nominations shall be submitted together with an abbreviated <i>curriculum vitae</i> for each candidate, supplied by that candidate. Each candidate shall declare in writing a willingness to serve if elected. The deadline for nominations shall be determined on each occasion by the Council.</p>	<p>Regulation 38bis</p> <p>Nominations of indigenous persons for candidates for the Indigenous Councillor position shall be made by five Members eligible to vote, drawn from more than one State.</p> <p>Regulation 38ter</p> <p>All nominations shall be submitted together with an abbreviated <i>curriculum vitae</i> for each candidate, supplied by that candidate. Each candidate shall declare in writing a willingness to serve if elected. The deadline for nominations shall be determined on each occasion by the Council.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Article 40 of the Regulations</p> <p>Nominations received from Members within a Region for election as Regional Councillors from that Region shall be communicated via the IUCN intranet as and when they are declared by the Election Officer as meeting the requirements established in the Statutes and the present Regulations. Before taking a definitive decision to reject a nomination, the Election Officer shall allow the individuals whose nomination does not meet the requirements a period of three weeks following the deadline in case they wish to bring evidence that the nomination(s) received were valid at the time of the deadline. Nominations that meet the requirements shall be submitted by the Election Officer with appropriate</p>	<p>Article 40 of the Regulations</p> <p>Nominations received from Members within a Region for election as Regional Councillors from that Region <u>as well as nominations received for election as Indigenous Councillor</u> shall be communicated via the IUCN intranet as and when they are declared by the Election Officer as meeting the requirements established in the Statutes and the present Regulations. Before taking a definitive decision to reject a nomination, the Election Officer shall allow the individuals whose nomination does not meet the requirements a period of three weeks following the deadline in case they wish to bring evidence that the nomination(s) received were valid at the time of the deadline. Nominations that meet the requirements shall be submitted by the Election Officer with appropriate background information</p>	<p>Article 40 of the Regulations</p> <p>Nominations received from Members within a Region for election as Regional Councillors from that Region as well as nominations received for election as Indigenous Councillor shall be communicated via the IUCN intranet as and when they are declared by the Election Officer as meeting the requirements established in the Statutes and the present Regulations. Before taking a definitive decision to reject a nomination, the Election Officer shall allow the individuals whose nomination does not meet the requirements a period of three weeks following the deadline in case they wish to bring evidence that the nomination(s) received were valid at the</p>

	<p>background information to each ordinary session of the World Congress. The Election Officer shall list the candidates in alphabetical order from a point in the alphabet chosen at random, with an indication of the number of nominations received per candidate.</p>	<p>to each ordinary session of the World Congress. The Election Officer shall list the candidates in alphabetical order from a point in the alphabet chosen at random, with an indication of the number of nominations received per candidate.</p>	<p>time of the deadline. Nominations that meet the requirements shall be submitted by the Election Officer with appropriate background information to each ordinary session of the World Congress. The Election Officer shall list the candidates in alphabetical order from a point in the alphabet chosen at random, with an indication of the number of nominations received per candidate.</p>
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