



INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE

96th Meeting of the Bureau of the IUCN Council

Held by conference call on 14 July 2021

Decisions

(Endorsed by the IUCN Council on 2 August 2021)

Approval of the agenda

BUREAU DECISION B96/1

The Bureau of the IUCN Council,
Adopts the agenda of its 96th meeting. ([Annex 1](#))

Extension of the Sponsored Members' Program to allow sponsorship of Members participating virtually in Congress

BUREAU DECISION B96/2

The Bureau of the IUCN Council,
Welcomes with appreciation the re-allocation of donor funds to enable to sponsor one delegate per IUCN Member organization from low- and middle-income countries, with voting rights, to participate online in the Congress if they are not able to travel to Congress and thanks the Government of Switzerland for its generosity;
Approves the addition, to the criteria of the Sponsored Members' Program approved by the Congress Preparatory Committee¹ (1st meeting, March 2019), of the requirement that the Members whose participation online is sponsored give a proxy to an accredited Member present at the Congress in Marseille.

Fall-back plan in case the Congress is cancelled

BUREAU DECISION B96/3

The Bureau of the IUCN Council,
Decides to recommend to Council that it adopts the following decision:

The IUCN Council,

On the recommendation of its Congress Preparatory Committee (CPC) further to Council decision C103/2,

Decides that, in case the Congress would need to be cancelled at a later stage as a result of a possible deterioration of the health situation in France:

1. All decision items including elections be submitted to an online vote open to all IUCN Members, opening on 22 September 2021 and closing on 6 October 2021 (if Congress is cancelled onsite, both opening and closing dates of the online vote will be pushed back by one week), in accordance with paragraphs c. to g. of Regulation 94 on the understanding that the Election Officer and Deputy Election Officer will oversee the voting process with regard to the elections;

¹ Cf. the [Report of the Congress Preparatory Committee to Council](#) (96th meeting, March 2019).

2. If a 2nd round is necessary for the election of the President (Rule 81), an additional online vote will be opened as soon as possible after the results of the first online vote will have been announced;
3. The Secretariat will organize a presidential candidates' debate (pre-recorded or virtual) and make the recording available to all IUCN Members via the Congress website prior to the opening of the online vote;
4. Virtual Contact Groups will be organized for a selected number of motions;
5. There will be no process for motions on new and urgent topics (Rules 52 and 53) except if Congress is cancelled onsite, in which case motions submitted until the time of cancellation will be taken into consideration by the Congress Resolutions Committee;
6. The virtual events of the Forum will be maintained and as many of the hybrid Forum sessions as possible will be transformed into purely virtual events in coordination with the Host Country.
7. All session room events that were planned as pure in-person events as well as the exhibition and all related events will be cancelled, except if additional virtualization can be considered where possible and agreed with Host Country.

Motion granting postponement of the obligation to pay the 2020 dues to IUCN Members which have been in arrears of paying them as a direct result of the pandemic

BUREAU DECISION B96/4

The Bureau of the IUCN Council,

Having considered the requests from a number of IUCN Members facing financial difficulties as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic,

Decides to present to the IUCN Council for decision by email ballot, together with the background material provided by the Secretariat, a proposal that Council, based on Article 48 of the Statutes in light of the exceptional circumstances created by the pandemic, submits to the IUCN World Conservation Congress (Marseille, 3-10 September 2021) for approval of a motion granting postponement of the obligation to pay the 2020 dues to IUCN Members which have been in arrears of paying them as a direct result from the pandemic, and provided they have paid the dues for all previous years, so that these Members may exercise their membership rights during the upcoming Congress;

Requests the Secretariat, if Council so decides, to develop a mechanism to identify IUCN Members meeting the requirements of Council's proposal to Congress in time for the Bureau to approve the mechanism as well as the text of the Council motion.



96th Meeting of the Bureau of the IUCN Council

By conference call on 14 July 2021 at 2.00 PM

Agenda

Agenda Item 1: The President's opening remarks and approval of the Agenda

Agenda Item 2: IUCN World Conservation Congress

2.1 Council's report to Congress

Update from the drafting group set up during the 94th Bureau meeting on 15 June 2021 (cf. draft summary of B94)

2.2 Update on IUCN Member participation at Congress, including "Request from the Regional Committee of Eastern and Southern Africa for an extension of the sponsored delegates program to cover virtual participation in Congress for those sponsored members who cannot attend"

The letter from the Chair of the Regional Committee of Eastern and Southern Africa, dated 13 July 2021, can be viewed [here](#).

2.3 Member petitions invoking Article 94 of the Statutes

The updated list of Members petitioning can be viewed [here](#).

2.4 Fall-back plan in case the Congress is cancelled

The fall-back plan was presented to Council as document C104/4.1/1.

Agenda Item 3: Members facing difficult financial situations and unable to pay their full dues as a result of the pandemic

Following discussion of this topic during the 92nd and 93rd Bureau meetings held on, respectively, 12 April and 26 May 2021, the Bureau decided at its 94th meeting on 21 June 2021 to present a proposal to Council during its 104th meeting to be held on 22 June 2021 (cf. summary of B92 and draft summary of B94). However, the Council meeting was adjourned before the Bureau's proposal was presented for discussion. The Bureau is requested for guidance on how to proceed with this issue.

Agenda Item 4: Any other business announced in advance