



## TERMS OF REFERENCE PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES BEYOND THE AICHI TARGETS

### Background

This document sets out the terms of reference of the establishment of a new **Beyond the Aichi Targets Task Force** aimed at providing advice from the IUCN to the Convention on Biological Diversity on global targets for protected areas for beyond 2020.

The adoption of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 in 2010 at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), including its Strategic Goals and Aichi Targets, represented a major step forward for biodiversity conservation to support life on earth (IUCN 2012). The Aichi Targets set objectives to the year 2020 but not beyond. IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) wishes to assist parties to the CBD consider what the goals should be beyond 2020. WCPA had a members' meeting at the World Conservation Congress in Hawai'i in September 2016 and asked WCPA member Harvey Locke to head a Task Force on its behalf to provide a basis for WCPA to make submissions to the COP under the CBD. The advice is needed in time for it to be taken into account when new protected area targets are set for the period after 2020.

### Objectives of the WCPA Beyond Aichi Task Force

Building on the Beyond Aichi sessions held at the World Parks Congress in Sydney in 2014, the purpose of the WCPA's Beyond the Aichi Targets Task Force is two-fold:

- a. To help build global momentum for the Promise of Sydney to scale up conservation, using protected areas as the key conservation tool, and
- b. To ensure that, in 2020, new global conservation targets for spatial conservation are set that would be meaningful for achieving the CBD's basic purpose, which is the conservation of biological diversity and the halting of biodiversity loss.

Informed by the best available science, and a range of perspectives, the Task Force will ask and seek to answer what are truly sustainable conservation targets. It is understood that in a world of 7.5 billion, the targets will vary by ecological and social conditions and thus will require an ecoregion by ecoregion approach. The Task Force will not endeavour to impose a "one size fits all" approach.

### PROMISE OF SYDNEY

This Task Force builds directly from the Promise of Sydney. The following are paragraphs extracted from the document:

#### The Vision

*We will scale up protection in landscapes, wetlands and seascapes to represent all sites essential for the conservation of nature, especially in the oceans. We will enhance diversity, quality and vitality in governance and management, including the appropriate recognition and support of areas conserved by Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and private entities.*

### **Objective 1**

*The Aichi targets were designed as interim targets to halt biodiversity loss and to be implemented by 2020. They are interim targets and do not represent what is actually required for humanity to live in sustainable harmony with nature. Aichi Target 11 moved us beyond simple number targets to important consideration of protected area quality. We now have to move beyond the Aichi Targets to nature-based targets and there was much discussion and research presented on what these targets should be, planned region by region, with global coordination. For protected areas to halt the loss of biodiversity and thus provide key ecosystem services to people, they must be directed to areas of particular importance for biodiversity, be designed as connected systems, be well managed and be effectively monitored. To address many threats, conservation must also work across protected area borders. These are the primary considerations, more important than percentage targets. These targets for sustainability will require a rethinking of our personal expectations and how we live with more than seven billion people on this small planet. Some delegates argued that nature conservation will require at least half of the planet to ensure a truly sustainable future for both people and nature.*

The Beyond Aichi Task Force will be informed by and consider itself to be continuing the IUCN's previous extensive work with the CBD, the Promise of Sydney and the Hawaii Declaration. It is understood that topics may arise through consultation but no fundamental change in direction is foreseen.

### **WCPA Beyond Aichi Task Force Program Actions**

The goal will be to have the Task Force's written recommendation included as part of IUCN's formal submission to the CBD COP that will set the goals for beyond 2020. It will be delivered to the WCPA executive in a timely manner based on the dates of the CBD process, likely sometime in late 2018 or early 2019.

The Task Force will seek to consult and build a position on beyond Aichi Targets using the following methods:

1. The Task Force Chair will first establish a Steering Committee to help guide the project and assisting in planning, awareness-building and fundraising.
2. Members will be added to the task force by consulting within the Steering Committee; by reviewing the interests expressed by members in the WCPA registration process, and opportunistically to ensure there is representation of geography and gender. We will also see to ensure that there are range of perspectives with regard to science, the practical developments of targets, communications, indigenous and government perspectives. We will also seek to cover marine, freshwater and terrestrial interests.
3. We will conduct a comprehensive review of the available scientific literature to understand target setting; and areas required for population and ecosystem viability, human footprint; rates of habitat change and others relevant issues.
4. The Task Force will aim to have a framing workshop early in its tenure to scope the challenge and explore ways to develop the target. Location, timing and size will be subject to funding.
5. The Task Force will seek to use existing international and regional meetings and conferences to hold consultations on the targets.
6. Subject to funding, the Task Force will develop a global conversation of Beyond Aichi using social media, a web site and on-line surveys.
7. There will be a range of perspectives and issues encountered in this project that are impossible to fully forecast. Some of the more obvious ones are the roles of OECMs, Areas for Connectivity Conservation and the interaction with other conservation targets. The Task Force will need to consider all these views and be adaptive in the development of any new target and supporting documentation.

## WCPA Beyond Aichi Task Force Governance

### **Composition and Structure of the Task Force**

The Task Force is a creation of IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas, and as such, is responsible to the Chair of the Commission. Given the scope of the topic, the Task Force will seek collaboration with other IUCN commissions, notably the Species Survival Commission, as well as the IUCN Secretariat with a view to creating a "One IUCN" position to the CBD. The Task Force will also work opportunistically with other interested parties and organizations, such as the CBD, UNEP etc. The Beyond the Aichi Targets Task Force will seek membership to represent the required range of scientific expertise and will also seek to include a diversity of age, gender and global geographies. The Task Force will seek to include perspectives from traditional ecological knowledge.

### **Financing of the Task Force**

The Task Force Chair will seek funding to support his role and for an expansive global consultation.

### **Steering Committee Membership :**

The following have expressed interest in the Task Force to date and will constitute an initial steering committee:

- Chair, Harvey Locke, WCPA member and Co-founder and Strategic Advisor, Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative,
- Stephen Woodley, WCPA Vice Chair for Science and Biodiversity Outcome–will coordinate and facilitate connection with the WCPA executive.
- Dan Laffoley, WCPA Vice Chair Marine
- Claudio Moretti, WCPA Vice Chair for South America, Brazil
- Noelle Kumpel, Zoological Society of London

Other members will be added. We will seek to involve senior persons with global experience in protected areas and international conventions.