An inter-regional committee

Councillor Jan Olov Westerberg, chair programme and policy committee

REGIONAL CONSERVATION FORUM
1-3 July 2019 – Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Why do our regions need an Interregional Committee?

- IUCN regional structure of built on post ww2 geopolitical situation
- A regional or Interregional committee is built within IUCN legal structure and
- IUCN Europe has 40% of the membership and 80% of financing.
- IUCN needs to strengthen membership participation and support

Not a new bureaucratic level, a tool for more cooperation, more networking and more strength

In other words – working together, organizing, is a tool for cooperation, influence and participation
IUCN National and Regional Committees

There are more than 60 officially recognized IUCN National and Regional Committees around the world. Where no such committees exist, country focal points provide a link between countries/regions and IUCN.

IUCN Regional Committees

1. Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Committee
2. West and Central Africa Regional Committee
3. Meso America Regional Committee
4. South America Regional Committee
5. Caribbean Regional Committee
6. South and East Asia Regional Committee
7. West Asia Regional Committee

IUCN National Committees

1. Argentina
2. Australia
3. Bangladesh
4. Belize
5. Benin
6. Bolivia
7. Botswana
8. Brazil
9. Burkina Faso
10. Burundi
11. Cameroon
12. Canada
13. Colombia
14. Congo (BCC)
15. Costa Rica
16. Denmark
17. Dominican Republic
18. Ecuador
19. El Salvador
20. Finland
21. France
22. Guatemala
23. Guinea-Bissau
24. Honduras
25. Hungary
26. India
27. Israel
28. Italy
29. Japan
30. Jordan
31. Kenya
32. Korea (R.K.)
33. Kuwait
34. Lebanon
35. Malawi
36. Mali
37. Mexico
38. Morocco
39. Mozambique
40. Nepal
41. New Zealand
42. Nicaragua
43. Pakistan
44. Palestine
45. Panama
46. Paraguay
47. Peru
48. Poland
49. Russia
50. Senegal
51. South Africa
52. Spain
53. Sri Lanka
54. Sweden
55. Switzerland
56. Thailand
57. The Netherlands
58. Tunisia
59. Turkey
60. Uganda
61. United Arab Emirates
62. United Kingdom
63. United States
64. Viet Nam
65. Zimbabwe
Meeting of European National Committees, Copenhagen, 10 January 2013

• Establishment of the Ad-Hoc Working Group on the development of European NCs;
• Definition on the role, involvement and opportunities of European National Committees within the IUCN structure and programme;
• Sanctioned and supported by the IUCN Director General, Deputy Director General, all National Committees and Members present at the meeting.
European National Committees meeting
Rome 23-24 September 2013

The Rome Charter
Other regional initiatives
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>IUCN affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Ottawa</td>
<td>Meg Beckel</td>
<td>Chair – NC Canada</td>
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<td>Caribbean</td>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
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<td>Leida Buglass/Patricia Lamelas</td>
<td>CEBSE- Secretary for the IUCN Caribbean Regional Committee</td>
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<td>Meso America</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>Mexico City</td>
<td>Ernesto Herrera</td>
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<td>Buenos Aires</td>
<td>Ana Di Pangracio</td>
<td>Chair – NC Argentina</td>
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<td>West Europe</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>near Wales</td>
<td>Chris Mahon (GG Chair)</td>
<td>Chief Executive – NC United Kingdom</td>
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<td>East Europe, North and Central Asia</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Tbilisi</td>
<td>Nana Janashia</td>
<td>IUCN Member East Europe, North and Central Asia</td>
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<td>Johannesburg</td>
<td>Harriet Davies-Mostert</td>
<td>Chair – NC South Africa/ Chair – RC Eastern and Southern Africa</td>
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<td>Beirut</td>
<td>Nizar Hani</td>
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<td>Beijing</td>
<td>Ma Keping</td>
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<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Copenhagen</td>
<td>Ann-Katrine Garn (GG Secretary)</td>
<td>Chair – NC Denmark</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ex officio</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Bangkok</td>
<td>Raj Kumar</td>
<td>IUCN Secretariat - Membership Focal Point South and East Asia</td>
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<td>Gland</td>
<td>Enrique Lahmann, Sarah Over, Fleurange Gilmour</td>
<td>IUCN Secretariat, Union Development Group</td>
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A long road

- Long preparation period, 2015-2018. Many in-depth discussions, consultation with legal advisor, preparations, information through NC and NFP. Testing of options (two regional committees, continue as today etc).
- Councillors actively engaged and in a support mode.
- Draft by-laws has been prepared.
- Following proper structure.
- Information package and on-line discussion.
- Simple survey starting may 2018.
- Reminders at 3-5 times.
- Results presented in Prague October 2018. Numbers very close to 50% in the eastern part, a little less close in the west.
- New survey to not answered members in may-June 2019.
- Final results show east positive, west almost. Overall, very close to 50%.
The numbers, june 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>WE</th>
<th>EENCA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Members</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needed (50%+1)</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Answered</td>
<td>148 (48%)</td>
<td>38 (60%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>134 (43%)</td>
<td>29 (54%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>10 (4%)</td>
<td>4 (6%)</td>
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To fulfill the requirements, we need 22 votes in the west, and 4 in the east.
And today

- Earlier council decision (2008) states that at least 50% of all members in both regions need to be in favor of establishing an IRC.
- This is more than is needed to create an Regional Committee.
- We are very close in our regions.
Thank you!