

## Affirmation of the Role of Indigenous Cultures in Global Conservation Efforts

10704

**Original language of motion as submitted:**  
English

**Status:**  
Submitted

### Background information

#### 1. Does the proposed motion:

**Fall within the scope of the vision and mission of IUCN:**

Yes

**Propose an amendment to either the draft IUCN Programme 2017-20 or a proposed mandate of a Commission :**

No

**Address issues pertaining to the governance of IUCN:**

No

#### 2. Specify which IUCN constituents referred to in the operative paragraph(s) of this motion have

**Been consulted during the development of this motion:**

Center for Environmental Legal Studies ( United States of America )  
 Conservation Council for Hawai'i ( United States of America )  
 Environmental Law Program at the William S. Richardson School of Law ( United States of America )  
 Harold L. Lyon Arboretum, of the University of Hawaii ( United States of America )  
 Kua`aina Ulu `Auamo ( United States of America )  
 Parks Canada Agency - Agence Parcs Canada ( Canada )  
 Sierra Club ( United States of America )

**Collaborated in the development of the motion:**

Center for Environmental Legal Studies ( United States of America )  
 Conservation Council for Hawai'i ( United States of America )  
 Environmental Law Program at the William S. Richardson School of Law ( United States of America )  
 Harold L. Lyon Arboretum, of the University of Hawaii ( United States of America )  
 Kua`aina Ulu `Auamo ( United States of America )  
 Parks Canada Agency - Agence Parcs Canada ( Canada )  
 Sierra Club ( United States of America )

**If possible, add here the position or advice from the above mentioned constituents (unless they are co-sponsors of the motion):**

Provided valuable input and reviewed motion over the past several week.

#### 3. Before submitting this motion, have you searched the IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations Platform:

Yes

**Please specify, what is new, over and above current Resolutions and Recommendations and state which Resolutions / Recommendations you have**

**consulted:**

Prior motions focused on general recognition of indigenous values and culture, while this motion makes far more specific recommendations on actions, including; directly engaging indigenous communities, training and employing indigenous peoples at all levels, integrating the use of indigenous language, and values and concepts in policy making and practice. The motion also calls for working directly with indigenous knowledge holders.

**4. Please indicate whether the proposed motion has been discussed in one of the Regional Conservation Forums held in 2015:**

No

**5. Does the motion focus on local, national or regional issues :**

No

**6. Does the proposed motion concern issues arising in a State or States outside the proponents State / Region:**

Yes

**All countries:**

Canada

## Preamble

ACKNOWLEDGING that the planet is at a crossroads between development and conservation, trying to meet the needs of a growing population, recognizing that current human use of natural resources is not sustainable;

NOTING that while the world seeks innovative approaches to responsible development and resource management, indigenous peoples can provide tested examples of sustainability to serve as global models;

RECOGNIZING that the scope of indigenous knowledge is broad, including native species diversity, ecological processes and patterns, and land and sea management, which is applicable today;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that prior to Western contact, the indigenous people of Hawai'i sustained a population of up to 1 million people through the ahupua'a system of land management, which integrated land and sea ecosystems and relationships within a shared geographic, social, and political context;

AWARE that WCC 2012 Resolution 095 asked the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management to ensure that traditional knowledge and practices are included in the comprehensive inventory of tools to combat climate change;

MINDFUL of Resolutions 4.055 Integrating culture and cultural diversity into IUCN's policy and Programme and 4.099 Recognition of the diversity of concepts and values of nature adopted by the 4th IUCN WCC (Barcelona, 2008), which promote cultural values and traditions as key elements of successful conservation;

RECALLING that the 4th IUCN WCC (Barcelona, 2008) adopted Resolution 4.052 Implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), by which the IUCN endorsed UNDRIP and requested, "that the Director General make indigenous peoples' role in conserving biological diversity a main concern of IUCN and future World Conservation Congresses..."; and

ACKNOWLEDGING that the integration of indigenous peoples' approaches and

knowledge systems with conventional conservation efforts is essential to achieve sustainable human communities on Earth.

**The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Hawai'i, United States of America, 1-10 September 2016:**

### Operative paragraphs

**CALLS UPON** the Director General and the IUCN Council to strongly affirm the value of indigenous peoples' approaches and knowledge systems in helping to address the challenges facing our global ecosystems, and that working with indigenous knowledge holders to integrate their values and approaches into modern conservation efforts can greatly enhance long-term success of conservation;

**REQUESTS** the Director General and the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy to develop guidelines for IUCN Members to adopt conservation practices that integrate the use of indigenous language, values, and concepts in policy making and practice; increase efforts to hire indigenous peoples into conservation organizations at all levels; and work with and encourage indigenous practitioners on resource access and management; and

**ASKS** the IUCN Council and IUCN Members to reinforce indigenous values that build appreciation and responsibility for care of natural resources through learning the regional history of first peoples' relationships with lands and waters of conservation value and by working to rebuild and maintain the relationships that reinforce natural and cultural significance.

### Proponent and co-sponsors

**You are submitting this motion on behalf of:**

Hawai'i Conservation Alliance ( United States of America )

**Co-sponsors:**

Center for Environmental Legal Studies ( United States of America )

Conservation Council for Hawai'i ( United States of America )

Environmental Law Program at the William S. Richardson School of Law ( United States of America )

Harold L. Lyon Arboretum, of the University of Hawaii ( United States of America )

Kua`aina Ulu `Auamo ( United States of America )

Parks Canada Agency - Agence Parcs Canada ( Canada )

Sierra Club ( United States of America )

### Information required for the implementation of the motion

#### 1. Provide

**a) A preliminary description of the actions (strategies and/or processes) with, as far as possible, a timeline and an estimate of the financial and human resources needed to implement the motion:**

**To implement the motion:****Type of actions:**

Convene stakeholders/Networking  
 Education/Communication/Raising awareness  
 Policy influencing/advocacy

**Preliminary description of implementation strategy:**

Participate in e-workshops to craft guidelines relevant to the motion;  
 Provide case studies or examples of integration of indigenous values, knowledge and approaches in conservation;  
 Assist in drafting of best practices in indigenous integration into conservation;  
 Sign on as one of the participating conservation organizations that support the motion implementation goals.

**Estimated budget necessary to implement the motion (in US \$):**

100000-499999

**Estimated human resources necessary to implement the motion, for example new staff positions, type of expertise required, and:**

Strong guidelines and best practices are necessary that involve indigenous stakeholders in decision making and strategic direction. To implement the motion on a global scale requires a genuine commitment of recognition of indigenous values in conservation management, additional staff from indigenous communities, recruitment of experts from indigenous communities, and additional resources to ensure integration of and access by indigenous communities to land and water conservation efforts.

**b) Description of the contributions which proponent and co-sponsors intend to make towards the implementation of the motion****Proponent****Hawai'i Conservation Alliance ( United States of America )**

*Proposed Actions:* Convene stakeholders/Networking,  
 Education/Communication/Raising awareness

Convene e-workshops to craft guidelines relevant to the motion; Provide case studies or examples of integration of indigenous values, knowledge and approaches in conservation; Assist in drafting of best practices in indigenous integration into conservation; Sign on as one of the participating conservation organizations that support the motion implementation goals.

**Co-sponsors****Kua`aina Ulu `Auamo ( United States of America )**

*Proposed Actions:* Education/Communication/Raising awareness, Policy influencing/advocacy

Participate in e-workshops to craft guidelines relevant to the motion;  
 Provide case studies or examples of integration of indigenous values, knowledge and approaches in conservation; Assist in drafting of best practices in indigenous integration into conservation; Sign on as one of the participating conservation organizations that support the motion implementation goals.

**Parks Canada Agency - Agence Parcs Canada ( Canada )**

*Proposed Actions:* Education/Communication/Raising awareness, Policy influencing/advocacy

Participate in e-workshops to craft guidelines relevant to the motion; Provide case studies or examples of integration of indigenous values, knowledge and approaches in conservation; Assist in drafting of best practices in indigenous integration into conservation; Sign on as one of the participating conservation organizations that support the motion implementation goals.

**Conservation Council for Hawai'i ( United States of America )**

*Proposed Actions:* Education/Communication/Raising awareness, Policy influencing/advocacy

Participate in e-workshops to craft guidelines relevant to the motion; Provide case studies or examples of integration of indigenous values, knowledge and approaches in conservation; Assist in drafting of best practices in indigenous integration into conservation; Sign on as one of the participating conservation organizations that support the motion implementation goals.

**Center for Environmental Legal Studies ( United States of America )**

*Proposed Actions:* Education/Communication/Raising awareness

Participate in e-workshops to craft guidelines relevant to the motion; Provide case studies or examples of integration of indigenous values, knowledge and approaches in conservation; Assist in drafting of best practices in indigenous integration into conservation; Sign on as one of the participating conservation organizations that support the motion implementation goals.

**Environmental Law Program at the William S. Richardson School of Law ( United States of America )**

*Proposed Actions:* Education/Communication/Raising awareness

Participate in e-workshops to craft guidelines relevant to the motion; Provide case studies or examples of integration of indigenous values, knowledge and approaches in conservation; Assist in drafting of best practices in indigenous integration into conservation; Sign on as one of the participating conservation organizations that support the motion implementation goals.

**Harold L. Lyon Arboretum, of the University of Hawaii ( United States of America )**

*Proposed Actions:* Scientific/technical activities

Provide case studies or examples of integration of indigenous values, knowledge and approaches in conservation; Assist in drafting of best practices in indigenous integration into conservation; Sign on as one of the participating conservation organizations that support the motion implementation goals.

**Sierra Club ( United States of America )**

*Proposed Actions:* Education/Communication/Raising awareness, Policy influencing/advocacy

Participate in e-workshops to craft guidelines relevant to the motion; Provide case studies or examples of integration of indigenous values, knowledge and approaches in conservation; Assist in drafting of best practices in indigenous integration into conservation; Sign on as one of the participating conservation organizations that support the motion implementation goals; Establishing new policies; reforming existing policies.

**2. Provide here the name of a focal point who would be in charge of reporting annually on the followup and implementation of the motion if adopted.**

### **Focal point**

**Name:** Sam Ohu

**Surname:** Gon

**Institution:** Hawaii Conservation Alliance / CEESP

**3. If the operative paragraph(s) of this motion is/are directly related to the mandate and work of one or more IUCN Commission(s), has the Steering Committee of the relevant Commission(s) committed to oversee implementation and assist in the gathering of data on the implementation of the Resolutions involved:**

Yes

**Specify which Commission(s):**

Commission on Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy 2013-2016

### **Scope**

**Please specify to which area of the draft IUCN Programme 2017-2020 this motions is related:**

Valuing and conserving nature

Effective and equitable governance of nature's use

Deploying nature-based solutions to address societal challenges

**Indicate to which issues this motion is linked by selecting the relevant keywords:**

Capacity building

Indigenous People and Traditional Communities

Social/cultural development

**Indicate the geographic scope of the implementation of this motion:**

Global