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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE  
AND NATURAL HABITATS

**Standing Committee**

28<sup>th</sup> meeting  
Strasbourg, 24-27 November 2008

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**Resolution of the  
IUCN World Conservation Congress**

**November 2008**

*Report prepared by  
The IUCN*

**CGR4.MOT032****TRUST BUILDING FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE IN LINE WITH THE *EUROPEAN CHARTER ON HUNTING AND BIODIVERSITY***

CONSCIOUS of the fact that Res 3.012 (*Governance of natural resources for conservation and sustainable development*) adopted by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) called for IUCN to formulate principles for and approaches to ‘good governance’ for conservation and sustainable development;

NOTING that Res 3.074 (*Implementing the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity*) adopted by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) requested the Director General to promote initiatives to enable relevant components of the Union to work together to develop tools for the implementation of sustainable-use principles in practice;

CONSIDERING that an important and innovative example of such an initiative is the adoption by the Council of Europe through its Bern Convention of a *European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity*, containing 12 Principles explicitly based in the *CBD Principles of the Ecosystem Approach* (CBD Decision V/6) and the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity* (CBD Decision VII/12), with implementation guidelines for biodiversity regulators and managers on the one hand and hunters and hunting tour operators on the other;

OBSERVING that the principles and the approach of the *European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity* are equally applicable to the governance of other consumptive and non-consumptive uses of biodiversity;

AWARE of the findings of the recent Governance and ecosystems management for the conservation of biodiversity (GEM-CON-BIO) research study funded by the 6<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme of the European Commission in which numerous IUCN Commission members participated and which showed the importance of leadership and trust building for maintaining the status and sustainable use of biodiversity and other ecosystem services; and

WELCOMING the leadership in trust building shown by the European Commission in its Sustainable Hunting Initiative, especially its recognition of the conservation potential from sustainable use and its co-signature of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the European Union (FACE) and BirdLife International;

*The World Conservation Congress at its 4<sup>th</sup> Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:*

1. NOTES WITH APPRECIATION the adoption of the *European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity* by the Council of Europe;
2. ENCOURAGES further cooperation between the Council of Europe, governments and other stakeholders to prepare guidelines under the same principles for new European charters to promote conservation through sustainable use of other components of biodiversity;
3. REQUESTS IUCN’s members to:
  - a. Promote the *European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity* and comparable social tools where appropriate in the implementation of the Union’s policies and programme;
  - b. Innovate other similar measures that build trust to aid the conservation of biodiversity; and
  - c. Encourage positive synergies and resolution of tensions between stakeholders who offer different contributions to conservation; and
4. INVITES governments and NGOs more widely to develop similar trust-building tools and otherwise harmonise efforts for conservation;

*In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4<sup>th</sup> Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance in the implementation of the Programme 2009–2012:*

5. REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN's Commissions to:

- a. Promote the *European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity* and comparable social tools where appropriate in the implementation of the Union's policies and programme;
- b. Innovate other similar measures that build trust to aid the conservation of biodiversity; and
- c. Encourage positive synergies and resolution of tensions between stakeholders who offer different contributions to conservation.

**Comment:**

*The activities provided for in this motion are included in the Programme 2009–2012. This motion focuses on sustainable use and gives an example of a new approach to governance.*

**Explanatory memorandum**

The text of the *European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity* is available at: [http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/conventions/bern/recommendations/tpvs07erev\\_2007.pdf](http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/conventions/bern/recommendations/tpvs07erev_2007.pdf)