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Conseil International de la Chasse et de la Conservation du Gibier
Internationaler Rat zur Erhaltung des Wildes und der Jagd
International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation

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IUCN Accepts Role of Recreational Hunting in Wildlife Conservation

Encouraging signals from the 3rd World Conservation Congress at Bangkok

4,899 people from across the globe, some 3 kg of working documents per delegate, over 100 resolutions on issues ranging from genetically modified organisms to recreational hunting – this all can only happen at the IUCN's World Conservation Congress. Indeed, the recent congress in Bangkok, held on 17-25 November, uniting 40 Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Environment, Agriculture, Tourism

and Fisheries, almost 1.000 of the world's leading scientists, over 200 business representatives, as well as hundreds of environmental activists, aimed at setting the roadmap for global nature conservation.

"The decisions taken have the power to affect every single one of us," said IUCN Director General Achim Steiner. This is particularly true if one looks at the decisions affecting wildlife conservation and hunting. It was a long and winding road since its last Congress in Aman, where IUCN adopted the "Policy Statement on Sus-

tainable Use of Wild Living Resources". This is one of the pillars that now carry resolutions in favor of hunting as a tool for conservation. Another one is of course the adoption of the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity* (see also CIC Newsletter 2004/1). These two provide a strong underpinning for conservation through sustainable use.

What are the relevant IUCN decisions in concrete terms?

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At the Brink of Extinction: Saiga Antelope Needs Urgent International Support

Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and CIC get together Range States and China at IUCN World Conservation Congress in Bangkok

If you look at this male Saiga antelope on the left, you see one of the last few hundred remaining of its kind! Only two decades ago, over a million Saiga Antelopes (subspecies *Saiga tatarica tatarica* and *Saiga tatarica mongolica*) roamed the steppes of Cen-

tral Asia. These animals once dominated the open steppes from Ukraine to Mongolia, migrating to the steppe areas of the north during the summer and to the semi-deserts in the south during the winter. Its outside uniqueness and distinctiveness is due to the special form of its nose. Inside it is turbinate and helps the animal to survive in hot dry summers as well as in fierce cold winters. The hot air in the summer

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Photo by Rostislav Stach, CMS



Message from The President

Dear Friend,

A successful 2004 is nearing its end – reason again to take a closer look at what YOUR CIC has done for the promotion of conservation through sustainable use (“harvesting”) of wildlife. Yes, let us spell it out: for the promotion of Chasse, Jagd, Hunting, Stalking, Field Sports – whatever more names there are. Let us, therefore, recall some of the headlines :

Great News for Hunting Worldwide: Sustainable Use Codified by UN Convention

187 states agreed in Malaysia on principles and guidelines for the use of biological diversity – co-developed by CIC from the very beginning.

IUCN not only adopts the above but also accepts the Role of Recreational Hunting in Wildlife Conservation

Due to CIC’s strong support to the South African initiators, IUCN adopted a recommendation on sustainable use of wildlife in the form of recreational hunting in southern Africa as a conservation tool.

Hunting Tourism – An irritating subject?

CIC got the dialogue started on this “hot potato” issue with development agencies, the scientific sector and other conservation organisations such as WWF on sustainable hunting tourism.

51st General Assembly in Bucharest: “Wildlife Knows No Borders”

Strong and positive feedback on CIC Resolutions:

Africa: *Opposing the nationalization of private game farms by the government of Zimbabwe.*

Migratory Birds: *coordinated investigation of the Avian flu and its causes; promoting scientific investigation to find out the reasons for decrease in migrating water bird population on the East Asian flyway.*

Hunting with Hounds: *promoting an International Charter to make this hunting method better known*

Set-asides: *calling for more wildlife-friendly use of set-aside areas in Europe*

Set-aside Workshop in Brussels

Invited by the CIC-inspired “Habitat Fallow Land” project, experts from the EU Commis-

sion and organizations representing rural areas from 16 EU member states and Switzerland called for an increased use of set-asides for nature conservation.

Important Step for Saiga Antelope Conservation

Upon the invitation of the Convention on Migratory Species, IUCN, CIC and partners, range states and China came together in Bangkok to discuss means to protect one of the world’s most endangered species.

In the words of the Austrian Minister for Health and Women, Maria Rauch-Kallat, at our General Assembly in Bucharest:

“The CIC’s work is being carried out for the benefit of wildlife, the promotion of sustainable hunting and the safeguard of an important cultural heritage.”

Our work was positively acknowledged by Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme. According to him, hunting not only enriches the relationship of humans with the natural environment, but also makes a substantial contribution to active nature conservation. He applauds and encourages CIC’s increasing cooperation “with the international conventions and agreements.”

My New Year’s message therefore, is: let us carry on at all levels inside the CIC and with our partners to serve, worldwide, as a knowledgeable and trusted authority for the conservation of wildlife through sustainable use.

With this I wish you, your family and all of our friends the very best for a peaceful season and a healthy, prosperous 2005.

Keep up the positive spirit!

Di Schramm

Dieter Schramm

Le président du CIC fait le bilan des réalisations de l’organisation durant l’année 2004, dont il souligne les principes et directives pour l’utilisation durable de la diversité biologique, les recommandations adoptées lors du 3^e Congrès mondial de la nature de l’UICN, l’Assemblée générale productive du CIC à Bucarest, ainsi que la reconnaissance du CIC par des personnalités importantes.

CIC Präsident Schramm berichtet über das Erreichte im Jahr 2004: von den Prinzipien und Richtlinien für die Nutzung der biologischen Vielfalt bis zu den Wild-relevanten Empfehlungen, die von der 3. Konferenz der Welterhaltungsunion IUCN verabschiedet wurden; von der produktiven Generalversammlung in Bukarest bis hin zur Anerkennung des CIC auf internationaler Ebene.

In the Focus: 3rd World Conservation Congress



IUCN Accepts Role of Recreational Hunting in Wildlife Conservation

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Recreational hunting in southern Africa

In the southern African region, the total area of communal and privately owned land, on which use of wildlife through trading of live animals and recreational hunting takes place, exceeds that of all state-owned protected areas. Hence, "in much of southern Africa, wildlife on communal and privately-owned land is accommodated because it also provides an economically viable form of land use," says the Recommendation on "Application of the IUCN Sustainable Use Policy to sustainable consumptive use of wildlife and recreational hunting in southern Africa", tabled by the *Game Rangers Association of Africa (GRA)*, the *Endangered Wildlife Trust* and the *South African National Parks*. "Populations of game animals on many privately owned areas are higher than they have been at any time over the last century" explains Tim Snow, Chairman of the GRA African Committee. He adds: "it is high time to get international recognition for the valuable contributions of privately managed wildlife to biodiversity conservation." This is particularly important as various interest groups based in developed countries still oppose the sustainable utilization of wildlife and hunting and put pressure on governments to prohibit such forms of use. In fact, large areas would otherwise be used for agriculture if it would not be for the benefits derived from wildlife use and especially hunting that these areas and wildlife populations as well as ecosystem functions would be retained.

Following an intense and controversial debate during which the CIC closely cooperated with the proponents of this Recommendation and advised delegates on the importance of sound approaches to wildlife conservation by incorporating the needs of local populations, the IUCN members voted in favour of this Recommendation.

It means IUCN "accepts that well-managed recreational hunting has a role in the managed sustainable consumptive use of wildlife populations" and "condemns the killing of animals in small enclosures where they have little or no chance of escape." This is a clear statement against any form of "canned hunting" stresses Tim Snow. He underlines that "the Game Rangers Association of Africa has always supported the sustainable use of wildlife in a legal manner which pays respect to animals and condemns any form of canned hunting".

However, much more was achieved for sustainable use in Bangkok.

Sustainable Use Principles and Guidelines

By adopting the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines on Sustainable Use of Biodiversity, IUCN has firmly committed itself to their implementation. These Principles were developed under the Convention on Biological Diversity. The CIC was involved in shaping these Principles from the very beginning.

"These Principles represent the state of the art globally on sustain-

able use of biodiversity", commented Robert Hepworth, Acting Executive Secretary of the Convention on Migratory Species in introducing two workshops, organised by IUCN's Sustainable Use Specialist Group (SUSG) and CIC at the Bangkok meeting, which illustrated the Principles and discussed their development and the related tools for their implementation.

Consumptive use of wild living resources is an imperative for many of the world's poorest people, yet with the growing global population, these resources are threatened by overuse, which puts at risk both human livelihoods and biodiversity. Practical guidelines on how to increase the likelihood of use being sustainable are clearly needed. After an intense and lengthy participatory process, the Principles – based on IUCN's Amman Policy Statement on Sustainable Use of Wild Living Resources – were finally adopted by the Parties to the CBD in February 2004.

How to turn this document into practice and make it become a general tool?

One key position emerging from the high-quality workshops was the need to ensure that tools for indicators and the monitoring of

Robin Sharp, IUCN President-elect Valli Moosa and Kai Wollscheid



Le 3^e Congrès mondial de la nature de l'IUCN a eu lieu du 17 au 25 novembre 2004 à Bangkok. Kai Wollscheid rend compte des décisions majeures prises en matière d'utilisation durable de la faune. Grâce à la participation active du CIC, une recommandation a été proposée et approuvée par l'IUCN attribuant un rôle important à la chasse loisir, en sa forme bien surveillée, dans le contexte de l'utilisation durable des populations animales. Aussi, ce texte condamne l'abattage du gibier vivant dans des enclos trop petits où il a peu ou aucune possibilité de s'échapper. En approuvant les principes et directives d'Addis Abeba pour l'utilisation durable de la diversité biologique, l'IUCN s'est fermement engagé dans leur mise en œuvre. Dès le début le CIC a participé à l'élaboration de ces principes. Ayant donné des conseils aux ONG et à des délégations gouvernementales diverses, le CIC a joué un rôle important lors de la formulation, la promotion et l'adoption réussie d'autres motions portant sur des questions de l'utilisation durable.

Der 3. Welterhaltungskongress der IUCN fand vom 17. bis zum 25. November 2004 in Bangkok statt.

Kai Wollscheid hebt einige der wichtigsten Beschlüsse in Hinblick auf die nachhaltige Nutzung hervor. Dank der tatkräftigen Unterstützung durch den CIC wurde eine Empfehlung verabschiedet, in der IUCN die Rolle der Jagd in der nachhaltigen Nutzung von Wildtieren bestätigt. Gleichzeitig verurteilt IUCN „das ‘canned lion hunting’, bei dem die Tiere in kleinen Gehegen keine oder nur eine geringe Chance zur Flucht haben.“ Durch die Annahme der Addis Ababa Prinzipien und Richtlinien über die Nachhaltige Nutzung der Biodiversität, hat IUCN sich fest zu ihrer Umsetzung verpflichtet. CIC war in die Formulierung dieser Prinzipien von Anfang an mit eingebunden. Durch die Beratung von NGOs und verschiedenen Regierungsdelegationen hat der CIC eine wichtige Rolle gespielt in der Abfassung, Förderung und erfolgreichen Verabschiedung auch anderer Anträge über nachhaltige Nutzung.

sustainable use in practice must be kept simple and user-friendly for the benefit of local managers. Another one was the extent to which the Principles are already seen relevant to a wide range of activities. Commenting on this, David Morgan, Chief Scientist Officer of the CITES Secretariat said: “The recent CITES Conference of the Parties in Bangkok agreed to incorporate the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines into its work, not least in training and capacity building programmes, and it is significant that the proposal came from a developing country, namely Namibia.”

CIC’s idea to have the wildlife and hunting sector as one of the core areas to test the Principles in practice was widely supported.

Furthermore, the CIC was substantially involved in the drafting, promotion and suc-

cessful adoption of other motions on the following topics:

- ▶ Cherishing volunteers (i. e. more recognition of expert contribution to IUCN’s work)
- ▶ Ratification and implementation of the revised African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
- ▶ International cooperation on forest management
- ▶ Transboundary cooperation in mountain areas

In addition, CIC advised many NGO and several government delegations, and closely worked together to ensure that delegates were fully informed on the issues raised during the numerous workshops as well as key motions that impacted sustainable use. The CIC contributed vigorously to the intense debates on e.g. the following

motions, which contain important language relevant to the sustainable use of wildlife and hunting in particular:

- ▶ Management of large terrestrial herbivores in southern Africa
- ▶ Humane trapping standards
- ▶ Conservation and sustainable use of seals
- ▶ Endorsement of the Earth Charter
- ▶ Conservation of the Saiga Antelope (*tartarica* and *mongolica*).

Summing up, we are very encouraged about the broad support to all issues on the sustainable use of wildlife. This IUCN World Conservation Congress has clearly given a strong signal to the global community that it offers important contributions to development and livelihoods.



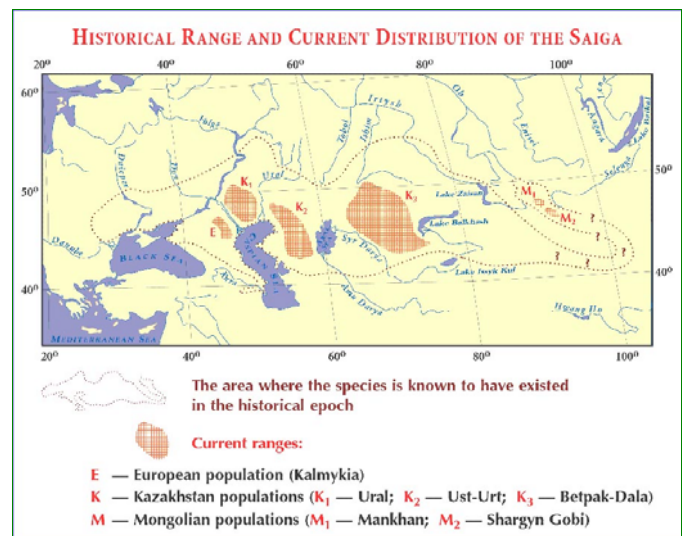
At the Brink of Extinction: Saiga Antelope Needs Urgent International Support

Durant les deux dernières décennies la population du saïga (*Saiga tatarica*) a subi un déclin brusque et dramatique jusqu’alors jamais connu parmi les grands mammifères : à nous jours leur nombre s’est baissé d’un million à environ 30 000 spécimens. La corne de saïga est trafiquée car elle est utilisée en médecine traditionnelle chinoise et représente ainsi une source de revenu pour les habitants pauvres de certains pays. Le CIC en coopération avec la CMS et d’autres organisations a organisé une réunion rassemblant des experts et d’autres acteurs responsables pour les questions de saïga au Congrès mondial de la nature de l’UICN à Bangkok dans le but d’évaluer la situation actuelle et de définir les démarches à faire pour préserver cette espèce unique.

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gets cooled on its long way to the lungs while at the same time the dust gets filtered. In the winter it is the other way around, the cold air becomes quite some degrees warmer while making its way through the long and ramified channels of the nose.

The Saiga is a victim of an epidemic of poaching. Zoologists say that its decline of 97 % in about a decade is the most sudden and dramatic population crash of a large mammal ever seen. Today, only some 31.000 of the previously more than 1 million Saiga remained: most of them females, as poaching, the biggest threat to the Saiga populations, mainly affects males. Females are poached for their



Huge populations of Saiga antelope, which lived in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan, are now fragmented. (Source: The Open Country Journal - Anna Luszbekina, Anton Struchkov. The saiga antelope in Europe: once again on the brink. The Open Country Journal, 2001, № 3, pp. 11-24)