# Report of CEESP Chair to Steering Committe

Aroha Te Pareake Mead, Chair

Bangkok, 27 28 November

2009

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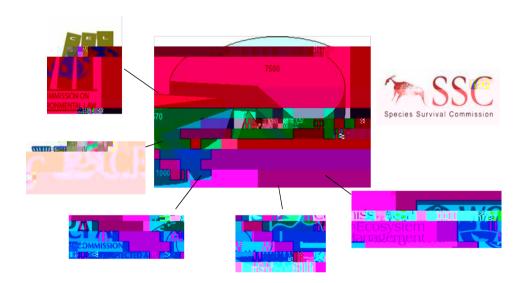
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The experience of being Chair of CEESP since November 2008 has been a wonderful journey and I thank CEESP (and IUCN) members for their willingness to give me this opportunity. What had always attracted me to the role were the members and the issues. In the past year, this has magnified 100 t

In truth, nothing prepared me for the actual 'hand over' post Barcelona.

There are three parts to this Report. Part Two details achievements in year one (2009), Part Three raises issues for Steering Committee discussion and Part Four makes recommendations for decision.

# **IUCN's Commissions**



2009 membership of Commissions

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It was always my intention to locate the CEESP Secretariat in a different place to my place of employment. This is because my employer, as a university, would charge overheads of 33% on top of the 20,000 CHF already charged by IUCN. One of my first tasks as Chair therefore was to explore and negotiate options and I advised the first meeting of the CEESP SC (Gland, February 2009) that my preferred option was to transfer the CEESP budget to the IUCN Oceania office in Fiji and to appoint a Fiji based Exec Officer. I negotiated with Gland and the IUCN ORO Regional Director for ORO to manage the CEESP account on behalf of the Secretariat without any additional overheads. I wish to acknowledge Taholo Kami, IUCN ORO RD for his willingness to trial this arrangement, and Gonzalo Oviedo, IUCN Gland for his active support in making it possible.

CEESP Secretariat is based in Suva, Fiji at the IUCN ORO:

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Membership As at 1 November 2009, there are 927 members of CE

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<u>Commissions</u> CEESP has 'formal' collaborations with three of the six IUCN Commissions, WCPA, SSC and CEL. The oldest relationship is with WCPA and is manifested through TILCEPA. TILCEPA remains the 'model' for cross Commission collabor

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One of the many advantages of being in a Commission is the degree of independence that Commissions have by virtue of being volunteer based networks of IUCN. As a consequence there is scope for CEESP to exercise a certain degree of independence in terms of implementation of the Global Programme. While we are able to do things additional to the Global Programme, as one of the pillars of IUCN, we also have a responsibility to deliver on those aspects of the Programme consistent with the mandate of CEESP.

Of the six Commissions, the degree of separation between the CEESP work pr

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Ideally CEESP members should

whole of CEESP. The experience of membership in CEESP therefore is Theme specific. Some Themes are active and others interactive. A few Themes are not fulfilling the basic requirement of a network i.e., to communicate with its members.

Processing of Membership Applications: There is also no guarantee that an aff

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to use in a practical and transparent way. A centralised system enables the CEESP Exec. Officer to enter me

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Size of SC and Exec Committee – According to the mandate of CEESP, the SC is the main decision making body of CEESP and comprises Theme Chairs, Regional VC's TF/WG Chairs and any officers. The Executive Committee is the same as the SC minus the Regional VCs and can only make recommendations to the SC for their decision. In practical terms, this makes the SC 29 people and the Exec Committee 17 people. Having a Committee this size limits the number of physical meetings that can be held because of costs, preferences Theme Co Chairs over Regional VC's and makes decision making a lengthy process with few chances of ever achieving a dear majority. In the lead up to the next WCC, I'd like us to consider a different model of governance for CEESP, one that tasks the Exec Com with greater decision making and enables more in person Exec Com meetings because of a reduced size of members. Your views and suggestions on this matter would be much appreciated.

Organisation of Themes As mentioned previously, some Themes are very active and others are not. 3 Themes have 3 Co Chairs and 4 Themes have 2 Co Chairs. There is nothing to link having 2 or more Co Chairs with achieving a greater degree of leadership and activity. I accept that having more than one Chair can accommodate multiple purposes (mentoring, representativeness, "job sharing") but it isn't an assured outcome.

The desired situation might appear to have all seven Themes equally active, but I think this disguises a greater issue. Is the current configuration of CEESP Themes optimal for the issues we need to be addressing?

Are there other issues we should be including in the work of CEESP? Should SEAPRISE diversify its scope to include SMEs in a more proactive way? Some members have commented that TILCEPA and TGER are covering many of the same issues – is there a sufficient point of distinction between these two Themes?

Over the next two years, I'd like us to continue to discuss how we can optimise the work of CEESP through reviewing our current work and approach. My proposal is that we appoint a SC Task Force to review the current structure and organisation of the work of CEESP and for the TF to report to the Executive Committee in 2010 (exact date to be confirmed).

I was very struck by a presentation by the Mayor of New York at the CSD meeting in May. He pointed out what we already know, that cities contribute the vast majority of the carbon emissions that are causing climate change and unsustainable development, but highlighted that cities are excluded from the global negotiations that are seeking to develop norms and standards to regulate,

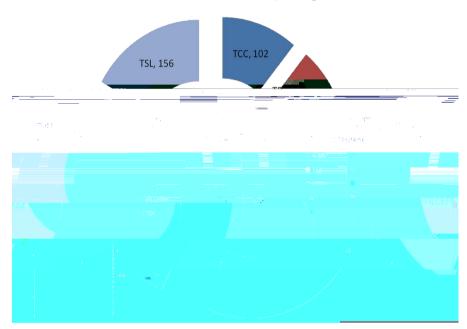
new category for IUCN membership for local governments. Rather my proposal is that we include the role of cities in sustainable development within the mandate and programme of CEESP and work with CEESP minded professionals who specialise in sustainable urban development.

Align CEESP annual programme & budgetary planning with IUCN Secretariat by August 2010.

Appoint a Task Force to review the organisation of the work of CEESP and report to the SC on any recommended changes at the  $2^{nd}$  meeting of the SC in 2010.

Establish a new Task Force to focus on the role of cities in sustainable development

# CEESP Membership by Theme



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I therefore recommend to this First meeting of the CEESP Steering Committee  $^4$  held in Bangkok, Thailand, November 27 28, 2009, that we agree to the following:  $^{\circ}$ 

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1. Establish a centralised Commission membership process and data base by February 2010.

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- 2 Align CEESP annual programme & budgetary planning with IUCN Secretariat by August 2010.
- 3. Appoint a SC Task Force to review the organisation of the work of CEESP and report to the SC on any recommended changes at the November 2010 meeting of the SC.
- 4. Establish a new CEESP Task Force to focus on the role of cities in sustainable development
- 5. Establish a Conference Steering Committee to oversee the organisation and agenda for the CEESP Sharing Power Conference in Whakatane, NZ, January 10 15, 2011.

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