

**MINUTES OF THE
IUCNN INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS MEETING**

Date: Monday, 12 July 2010
Time: 09:30 hours to 13:30 hours
Venue: IUCN Nepal Office

Meeting Attendees:

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| 1) Hon Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba (Chief guest) | Regional Councillor – IUCN / CA Member |
| 2) Dr. Hum Gurung | CEO – BCN |
| 3) Mr. Subarna Kapali | Deputy Director – CRT/N |
| 4) Mr. Yogendra Chitrakar | Director – ECCA |
| 5) Ms. Sunita Chaudhary | Researcher – ICIMOD |
| 6) Mr. Ram Bahadur Rana | Technical Advisor – Li-Bird |
| 7) Mr. Maheshwar Dhakal | Officer – MoFSC |
| 8) Mr. Dhurba Basnet | President – NEFEJ |
| 9) Mr. Ram Chandra Nepal | Program Manager – NTNC |
| 10) Mr. Buddhi R. Dangol | Senior Officer – WCN |
| 11) Ms. Kamala Acharya Dhungel | President – WE |
| 12) Mr. Mangal Man Shakya | Chairman – WWG |
| 13) Mr. Laxmi Krishna Amatya | Programme Manager – IUCN |
| 14) Mr. Rajendra Khanal | Project Coordinator – IUCN |
| 15) Ms. Bharati Sharma | Manager, HR, Admin, Membership & Constituency – IUCN |
| 16) Ms. Anu Adhikari | Programme Officer – IUCN |
| 17) Mr. Amit Pradhan | Communication & Outreach Officer – IUCN |
| 18) Mr. Rabindra Raj Joshi | Programme Assistant – IUCN |

AGENDAS

- 1) Current situation of IUCN Nepal
- 2) Current Conservation Challenges in Nepal (Group discussion)
- 3) Future direction (Group discussion)
- 4) Strengthening Institutional Members Relationship
- 5) Re-organising Institutional Members Committee

Minutes taker by Mr. Amit Pradhan

1. Current situation of IUCN Nepal

Mr. Laxmi Krishna Amatya started the meeting with a welcome speech. He welcomed all the members including the new member, Wildlife Conservation Nepal (WCN). He later went on to present a presentation focusing on the history of IUCN Nepal, previous achievements, the projects in hand, the challenge and opportunities and the vision and objectives of IUCN Nepal. He highlighted that links amongst members and between members and IUCN Nepal needs to be improved and further strengthened he said.

He mentioned that in the current phase, IUCN Nepal has become lean in terms of human resource and we are multitasking and have multiple portfolios but there are still opportunities but at present we are focusing on strategy based direction. Another way would be, working in close collaboration with members sharing their expertise.

Ms. Bharati Sharma reminded all the partners that the survey form for expertise mapping had been sent to all the partners. She requested them to fill and send it as soon as possible. She also requested members to clear their membership's dues those who yet to be cleared. She thanks to those members who had already cleared their dues and send the information as requested by IUCN for expertise mapping.

Hon'ble Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba thanked to all the members of IUCN for organising the meeting and said that she has been pursuing a couple of points as a councilor. She said that she has become a member of Natural Resource committee and she sees a lot of opportunities in the forestry sector. She added that the Nepal government is very much interested in reviewing the Community Forest Guideline. Another point she mentioned was that the topic of poaching and post-conflict encroachment in the forest and other natural resources, which were a major concern to the government. In all these too IUCN Nepal could play a part. She said that objective view points were required to be given on these topics. She said that the above mentioned topics had also been mailed to IUCN Asia Regional Office (ARO)

She said that climate change awareness was another part that could be looked into. Maybe training could be provided to IUCN members and, which could later be used at the grassroots level. Maybe we can work on the joint proposal for the same.

She also informed that the government will be receiving USD 60 million as climate resilient fund and a part had already been provided by Asia Development Bank (ADB). Ministry of Environment (MoE) didn't have enough resources to use this fund so guidance and partners would be needed to make proper implement and use the fund. Maybe we could approach them as a group.

IUCN could also play a part in reviving the climate change council and environment protection council. She also requested ICIMOD to incorporate all the members in the Mountain Alliance.

Points/issues that were raised by the members during the discussions

- Lack of adequate human resources in IUCN Nepal
- Funding if received then fear of getting it diverted to ARO. It was clarified that this was not the case but according to IUCN norms part of the administrative cost had to be given to ARO and if a consultant was hired from the headquarters or ARO then the consultant fee had to be paid. The concept of matching fund to be provided by IUCN was also raised.
- International donors not sure of providing fund because of the unstable Political situation of Nepal
- Follow-up on the One Programme meeting among members (The details had been sent to ARO and there was no response). Presently the topics discussed then are in focus.
- Impacts of CC on women and children.

- Climate change policy was what the funding agencies were interested in.
- The 6 million dollar fund for climate change will be used and distributed through that one door policy and later provided to the different partners. May be IUCN and its members could approach as one group to work on multiple themes like impacts, adaptation, outreach and training on CC to get a part of the fund.
- Government specially NPC willing to work with the INGOs to get fund from donors
- IUCN Nepal willing to develop concepts and proposals in partnership with the members but questions were raised as to happen to the previous proposals that were made with the assistance of the members.

2. Current Conservation Challenges in Nepal (Group discussion)

Issues/Way Forward:

- Climate change – mitigation - adaptation
- Ecosystems Services (ecotourism) – payment, certification – can work with Nepal Tourism Board
- Environment Education (Rebuild) and awareness (climate change and ESD)
- Forest
 - Forest encroachment – assessment – with ICIMOD MENRIS/RS
 - CF guidelines review (Independent)
 - Forest market and commercialisation study
- Water issues management
- Review of government working papers/green sector (planning vs. implementation)
- Independent study of NRM and Climate change adoption and mitigation
- Revision and Upgrade of Environmental Education and curriculum

Process:

Form working groups of NNCs on different selected themes based on membership mapping– develop quality concepts and proposals together.

3. Future direction (Group discussion)

- Enrolling Ministry of Environment a state member (?)
- Approach Save Our Species (Headquarters programme) for fund
- Follow-up of ABS bills to activate it
- Mountain Alliance Forum – to include IUCN members (ICIMOD)

4. Strengthening institutional member's relationship

- Undertake capacity development of members (not only trainings and workshops).

5. Re-organising Institutional Members Committee

- Executive committee will sit for a meeting on the election of chairman of NNC and reorganization if needed.