

**NEW & URGENT MOTION SUBMITTED FOR THE  
IUCN WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS**

Marseille, France 3-11 September 2021

Invited co-sponsors

International Council of Environmental Law (Int'l; Spain Secretariat)  
Mexican Center for Environmental Law (Mexico)  
Center for Environmental Law (Haub Law School at Pace University) (US)  
Environmental Law Program (Richardson Law School, University of Hawaii) (US)  
Environmental Law institute (ELI) (US)  
Ecological Society of the Philippines (Philippines)  
Institute of Law for a Green Planet (Planeta Verde) (Brazil)  
Asia Pacific Centre for Environmental Law (APCEL) (Singapore)  
Peruvian Society for Environmental Law (SPDA) (Peru)  
Foundation for Environmental Law & Natural Resources (FARN) (Argentina)  
Natural Resources Defense Council; (NRDC) (US)

Pursuant to Rules 52 and 53 of the IUCN Rules of Procedure for the World Conservation Congress, the following new and urgent motion is submitted. On behalf of the co-sponsors, the International Council of Environmental Law (ICEL) submits this motion while the cosponsors are affirming their co-sponsorships, as a draft for the Congress Secretariat to have ample time to process the motion. It is n3w because The Covid-19 pandemic had not emerged when the deadline for submissions of motions has closed. It is urgent because the spill-over of another emerging infectious disease through zoonosis is a present threat. See N.A. Robinson, "The Next Pandemic Is Here," at <https://law.pace.edu/sites/default/files/Alumni/EnvtForumZoonosisEssayAug2020.pdf> . The proposed motion is consistent with Rule 48(bis), provides policy guidance, does not repeat previously adopted resolutions or recommendations, urges policy for all levels and calls on IUCN's commissions to take action to further the motion's proposed "one health" policy. In accordance with WCC-2016-Res-001, the resolution can be archived only after the "One Health" framework is in place to manage zoonosis in the humans and nature interface. We look forward to a constructive contact group to explore how to enhance this proposed motion, before the Members Assembly convenes.

**Ensuring Ambient Health: Averting the Next Pandemic**

*Recognizing* the heritage, that evolution contributes to all of life,

*Understanding* that mammals share with each other a vast array of bacteria and viruses through zoonosis,

*Concerned* that human socio-economic development has disrupted and diminished the habitats of mammals that are hosts to bacteria and viruses, causing these microbes to seek out new hosts among people,

*Apprehensive* that these spill-overs of microbes to human hosts are increasing in frequency, augmenting the spread of new and merging infectious diseases among humans,

*Alarmed* that the virus SARS-CoV-2 has infected people world-wide and that the pandemic COVID-19 with its evolving mutations such as the Delta variant, has brought tragedy to everyone,

*Troubled* that the scale of potential zoonotic infections is enormous, with more than 700,000 virus possibly capable of sharing infectious diseases, and beyond the capacity of virology to ensure protections for human health,

*Aware* also that phyto-sanitary regime are only minimally effective in averting or managing the spread of emerging infectious diseases,

*Recalling* that the United Nations Environment Assembly recognizes that “human, animal, plant and ecosystem health are interdependent,” and that biodiversity loss is a “health risk magnifier” and “*Emphasizes* in this regard the value of the One Health approach, an integrated approach which fosters cooperation between environmental conservation and the human health, animal health, and plant health sectors” (UNEA/EA.3/Res 4, 2017),

*Appreciating* that all nations have established nature conservation programs and environmental laws that provide the means to sustain healthy habitats for animals and avert or minimize the possibility of spill-overs of bacteria and virus,

*The World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France, 3-11 September 2021:*

1. Adopts the following “One Health policy framework for IUCN: :  
***ONE HEALTH is the universal policy and practice of care for the integrity, stability, resilience, and beauty of Earth’s biotic community, through nurturing the interdependent health links that are shared among humans, wildlife, domesticated animals, plants and ecosystems, and all nature. ONE HEALTH transcends and unites the contributions of the life sciences for stewardship of ecosystem integrity and biodiversity and well-being of life on Earth”;***
2. Urges the immediate strengthening of all protect areas to avert zoonotic spill-overs, including establishing buffer zones that can reduce human-animal interactions;
3. Recommends that all environmental impact assessment procedure be strengthened to require study of potential zoonotic spill-overs and measure available to prevent spill-overs;
4. Requests that IUCN’s Commissions establish an inter-commission task force to identify and recommend procedures and practices, including spatial planning and land use rules, appropriate to implement IUCN’s One Health policy.