

**IUCN UK Committee
AGM &
Members Meeting**

24th June 2010

**ARUP Offices
'Michael Room'
13 Fitzroy Street
London
W1T 6BQ**



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Preface

The IUCN UK National Committee 2010 Annual General Meeting and Member's Meeting were held on June 24th 2010 at the ARUP Offices, 13 Fitzroy Street, London, W1T 6BQ

The purpose of the AGM was update the UK Membership with the current status of the UK Committee. Following the AGM, the Member's Meeting addressed the topic of Business in Biodiversity and heard from three speakers; Tim Nevard, CEO of the Conservation Grade farming scheme, Susan Clairs, Associate Director, ARUP, and Deric Quaile, Project Implementation Manager, Shell Secondment, IUCN Business and Biodiversity programme.

IUCN UK National Committee Annual General Meeting 2007

Chair's welcome

Chris Mahon welcomed everyone to the meeting and was pleased to see a wide range of members, commissions and the Secretariat. ARUP were thanked for providing the venue.

As there are no elections this year the AGM will not be a formal meeting. Chris informed everyone that James Robinson from RSPB has changed job roles and therefore has stood down from the Executive Committee, he has given three months notice, and after that time Chris is hopeful to secure a co-operative individual over the course of the next AGM.

Chair's introduction.

Chris updated participants on the work of the IUCN in the past year, points raised were:

- There was a meeting in Brussels that John Kidd of IUCN attended; there were 3000 people there who could tell what the IUCN was about, however the function of the National Committee and the communication still has some way to go.
- There will be a study on Ecosystems and Biodiversity in October 2010 in Japan, with pre-launch events in the run up to the study.
- There were statistics from IUCN extinct species : **21%** of all known mammal species on the planet, are facing extinction, **50%** of turtle species; **30%** of all amphibians; **12%** of all known bird species; **27%** of reef-building corals, and **35%** of conifers- all threatened with extinction. Almost **30%** of reptiles; almost **40%** of the freshwater fish species that have been assessed, and more than **33%** of assessed invertebrates- all threatened with extinction.
- The Gulf of Mexico oil spill recently in the news has increased coverage regarding the links between nature and development.
- In the regional offices of IUCN there are 1,000 staff and 11,000 environmental consultants.
- The IUCN Global programme for 2009-12 has 5 principles:
 -
 - Human Well-being
 - Green Economy
 - Climate Change
 - Biodiversity
 - Sustainable Energy

He then opened the floor to Simon Stuart, Chair of SSC.

Report from Dr Simon Stuart

Simon Stuart introduced himself as the only UK representative for global representation, and gave a brief report on the recent work of the IUCN Council:

- The agreed venue and location for the next IUCN congress will be held in the International Convention Centre (ICC) in the Jungmun Resort Complex in Jeju, an island south of mainland Korea, in September 2012. There has been a debate on the theme but no decisions made yet.
- The 4 year programme will be adopted however there will not be any fundamental changes to the current programme proposed in Barcelona 2008, the overall structure will remain the same.
- A new IUCN protocol has been approved on how policies are adopted.
- The Interim Biodiversity management policy from the 2008 Barcelona congress will be tried out next year.
- IUCN manage the Global List of Species/Protected Areas
- They have been looking at issues regarding regional governance and the idea that regional/local governments can join IUCN.
- There was a CITES conference, which looked at the IUCN's involvement.

- The Financial Report for the end of 2009 shows a minor deficit of £24,000 SF. Finances are looking ok for this year, governments are making cut backs 2011-13, governments cannot keep commitments to IUCN, therefore big push for looking at new forms of funding.
- Code of conduct for national and regional commission debate.
- At every regional meeting there are reports from three commissions, a very impressive report was received from CEL and the SSC report is due in November 2010.

Simon then opened the floor for any questions:

Regarding the assessment process, will we be informed in a structured way the guidelines and guidance's regarding recommendations?: Chris Mahon

Susanna Söderström of IUCN responded there will be a consultation process.

What is the value and role of the National Committee? : Mark Wright

Simon explained if you didn't have a National Committee the members would be hard to organise themselves. In principal the IUCN International can do more to exchange information with members.

Simon Stuart then gave the stand back to the Chair, Chris Mahon.

Overview 2009/10

Chris gave an overview of 2009/10, these points were put forward:

- Chris attended the BIAZA meeting in Belfast recently.
- Joanna Robertson of CCW has now retired from the Executive Committee, and has been replaced by Tom Tew, Chief Scientist at Natural England.
- There have been ExCo meetings in Cambridge, Wales, Edinburgh, and Bristol in the last year.
- The Royal Zoological Society of Scotland (RZSS) has taken over as Secretariat, they have taken new duties seriously, with IUCN branding at the zoo entrance.
- There are new UK members: Blue Venture Conservation, and Forest People Programme.
- The IUCN UK strategy was developed early in the year. The Global Programme gives us broad framework:

Vision: A strong IUCN National Committee representing Members and Nature in the UK and its Overseas Territories, seen to be actively functioning and sustainable to 2020 by 2012

Mission: As an active IUCN UK Committee membership, to make available to the global organisation relevant UK experience, information, tools and expertise needed to be effective at the highest levels of decision-making and shared across the global regions for the sustainable future of the planet's biodiversity and human society

5 Objectives: Reform governance and function, increase membership and resources, improve programme delivery, monitor performance, improve communications.

- Themed Conferences- Chris handed out the report from the April conference held in Edinburgh, the theme was: 'Nature: what's in it for me?' discussions are ongoing as what to do in November and if there will be another themed conference.
- IUCN UK Protected Areas Assignment Project- ICOMOS Landscape Working Group has been set up with National Parks/Nature Reserves, etc, reporting on protected areas, and aiming to set up a Protected Areas Database, with a Project Coordinator to be appointed in September 2010.
- IUCN UK Peatland Programme- IUCN badge logo, gaining lots of publicity, the project is closely linked with climate change, ExCo receives updates from Clifton Bains regularly, the Peatland Conference is to take place in Durham, and information is on the Peatland website.
- Darwin's Landscape Laboratory World Heritage Bid- involved this year with Bromley Council, World Heritage bid for the site, however the bid has not gone forward.
- Business and Biodiversity – working with the Private Sector.

- There have been improvements to the IUCN UK website; there is still a way to go yet to achieve the right results.
- This year was the start of the IUCN UK e-newsletter, 'Synergy' which informs members of recent news and events.
- There was a Pan-Europe meeting held in Belgrade which Chris attended and met with Susanna Söderström.

Ways forward for the IUCN: Chris Mahon

- Can we add value to UK and Overseas Territories ecosystem and native species conservation?
- IUCN should be an organisation that adds value, the conference this year in Edinburgh has shown that people got together that doesn't usually get the chance, it is important in these tight financial times that we don't give up the opportunity to network.
- Protected Areas Assignment
- Communication - 2020 Vision
- Business and Biodiversity – working with the Private Sector
- Greening the Global Economy
- Changing the Climate Change Forecast
- Energising the future
- Conserving the diversity of life
- Funding
- The 'nature environment white paper' is coming up in September, we want the IUCN UK to join in and put our views together.
- Own the brand- IUCN UK; try to get more members to use the logo when promoting their activities.
- Work with the IUCN commissions: SSC, CEESP, CEC, WCPA, CEM, CEL.

Chris finished the AGM by opening the floor for any questions.

Harriet Nimmo asked if everyone could briefly introduce themselves to the participants as there were lots of new faces.

Although the 'environment white paper' is not a secret, but there has been no formal announcement as yet, Defra expect to make the announcement before the summer/ recess. If it happens there will be a strong platform for the next steps of mainstream biodiversity, and exciting opportunities for the environmental sector to influence the government legislation: Tom Tew

It is not yet known what the paper will be as yet, high level announcements are due, on the No.10 website there are biodiversity elements in the business plan, public consultation on the environment white paper could take years. : Trevor Salmon

'The Norton Review' by John Norton is likely to report in a month or two; it is fair to assume he will conclude the ecological coherence of the Protected Area's system in England. : Tom Tew

Here is a question to everyone here: what do you want and expect as a UK member or commission member from the National Committee? Do you want more opportunities to contribute? As all industries are having cut backs we don't want to lose members from the IUCN UK, so it would be useful to understand what you want from your membership, comments and suggestions would be most welcome : Chris Mahon

Chris then formally closed the AGM at 12.30pm, thanked those in attendance and the Member's Meeting part of the day began at 13:45pm.

Over lunch Susanna Söderström, Regional Constituency Coordinator for Europe, ran through the workings of the 'members mapping tool' databases and showed the members how to access the information on the www.iucn.org website. She would like the UK members to inform her when contact email addresses change so she can keep an up to date list. She also highlighted that members can use the IUCN logo when they are promoting projects, and if they go to www.iucn.org/logo there are many different versions of the logo for use.

Members Meeting “ Biodiversity in Business ”

Two out of the three Powerpoint© presentations that were provided at the meeting have been reproduced as PDF files on the UK Committee website: www.iucn-uk.org.

Sarah Robinson of the IUCN-UK Secretariat thanked everyone for attending and thanked ARUP for providing the room for the day, RZSS has good connections with ARUP, and it was not a coincidence the AGM has taken place there. The theme of the members meeting is 'Biodiversity in Business' and how business can enhance the conservation work they already do. SR thanked the speakers for attending and agreeing to do presentations. She then introduced the first speaker, Tim Nevard who is the CEO of the Conservation Grade farming scheme.

Conservation in business, the Jordans & Ryvita Company,
Tim Nevard, CEO of the Conservation Grade farming scheme.

Tim opened his presentation by asking 'how much are businesses doing already?' There is a misinterpretation that businesses don't understand conservation policies, but they do, they just have a different approach. The issue is '*food sustainability and biodiversity*'.

Tim explained the Conservation Grade farming scheme, the principle being that the farmers pay a premium to create nature friendly habitats on 10% of their farmed land, therefore helping the local habitat survive, and they can advertise their products as 'conservation grade'. It has been established for 25 years, and last year Jordan's took the scheme to other companies who have taken it on board too. The food industry is very concerned about public image and competition between supermarkets and food companies is very high. Each company needs food security and ecological sustainability. Since the 1950's the world population has increased hugely, there is a shortage of food for the estimated population, and France is the only country in Western Europe who can feed themselves with no outside help.

There is also a huge demand and competition for energy with the developing and western world, the price of wheat/cereal/oil is related to each other, President Obama has spoken about his plans on putting wheat and corn into oil, if the USA control the wheat market, the price of wheat will increase.

Widespread extinction is inevitable due to the increase in food and fuel production. Extinction is currently happening fifty times faster than at any point in human history. At present there has been 97% of UK herb-rich meadows lost since 1947, 70% decline in UK farmland birds since 1970, 70% decline in bumblebees. There are worries we are heading for a 'silent spring' and the agriculture produce will be increased at the expense of biodiversity.

UK farmers are concerned as consumers demand cheap food, supermarkets reduce prices, buyers are squeezing the farmers, so how can farmers protect biodiversity? The answer is they can't. Tim reported TEEB are publishing important reports and hopes the government will listen to the points they raise. Through surveys carried out by Defra and other organizations it is believed 47% of people will pay more for the environmental friendly products.

CG + NFB = FS²

Conservation Grade + nature friendly brands = food security squared.

Tim then asked if there were any questions:

Who certifies conservation grade products? : Mark Wright

Tim reported CMI certify products for the food industry. The website www.conservationgrade.org shows the criteria for farmers if they want to look into it.

There is a large number of low intensity agriculture in the third world, with large amounts of land in the tropics, under producing food. : Simon Stuart

Tim replied in terms of yield, it's not far off.

What percentage of the UK is Conservation Grade? : Caroline Ryan

Tim informed there is only a small percentage at present, but brands will be forced to join in as they want to be known for being part of the scheme as it is good publicity and gives an edge over competitors.

Is there, or will there be, a Conservation Grade scheme for meat production? : Dr. Alan Elliot

Tim replied no, if there is an increase in meat production, there will be a decrease in biodiversity.

Sarah thanked Tim for his talk and introduced the next speaker, Susan Clairs, Associate Director at ARUP.

The advantages of environmentally sustainable approaches in business

Susan Clairs, Associate Director, ARUP

Susan started her talk by giving a brief background of ARUP; they are management consultants who have a background in engineering and planning, employing 10,000 people in 70 countries over the last 74 years. The company is owned by trusts where beneficiaries are past and present employers. They have built a number of high profile buildings including the Beijing National Stadium, Sydney Opera House, the Millennium Bridge, and The Angel of the North. Currently they are working on designs for the Heathrow Hub project.

ARUP is a strategic advisor to the C40 group of cities committed to climate change. Half of the world's population lives in urban areas, half in rural areas. The urban population grows by 200k people everyday, which is 70+million a year. This means there is a great demand for more transport. Urban areas are the key to a sustainable future. There is a website with more information; <http://www.c40cities.org/> ARUP has been involved in The World Economic Forum's SlimCity project, Susan was a researcher for the project and they developed a set of 25 knowledge cards to encourage good practice. These cards were used as a global platform to inform mayors and the private sector of issues on urban mobility, smart energy and sustainable buildings and to give practical solutions to any of the problems they may face.

Susan then asked if there were any questions.

How do you define sustainable urban environments? Can we have a sustainable city?: Mark Wright

Susan replied if something is not sustainable it won't survive, look at city footprints, indexes, be aware of various impacts and what you can do, look at problem areas.

Are urban areas not an isolated unit? : Mark Wright

Susan agreed with the point there is a relationship between urban and rural areas.

There is a danger of using the term sustainable, as you don't then look honestly at the problems and solutions. : Mark Wright

Susan answered try not to use the term sustainable, it's just a matter of good design.

How do you deal with communication and issues between the architects and the decision makers? :Chris Mahon

Susan replied look at the C40 scheme, its working, mayors are taking notice, all this is good for ARUP's profile, and the opportunity to get information out. The big problem is it is seen as political, it shouldn't be

i.e. public transport, most schemes last longer than a Politian's term, in a term of 4-5 years it is impossible to get something done in short space of time, and buildings take even longer to complete, but politicians are anxious as they don't want to commit to something that can't be completed during their term. Chris also added the census vision should be political enough to influence.

Sarah thanked Susan for her time and presentation, and introduced the next and final speaker Deric Quaile.

How IUCN is linking to the business world and what opportunities are available to IUCN UK members.

Deric Quaile, Project Implementation manager, Shell Secondment, Business and Biodiversity Programme

Deric began by saying what a great opportunity it had been to attend the meeting and meet some of the IUCN UK members. He gave a short brief history of IUCN and the business from 2001-10 and the IUCN Business & Biodiversity progress.

Why work together with IUCN?

The estimated result is hoped to be: ***'Companies, industry association, and consumer groups incorporate ecosystem values in planning and action'***

To work with IUCN the aims are:

- Global Economy – (driver of biodiversity loss),
- Business – (part of the solution - technologies and resources)
- Market forces can aid conservation and is an important part of sustainable economic development
- Conservation and profits - not mutually exclusive.

Deric explained The BBP Vision: *'A sustainable global economy in which businesses are committed and effective partners in achieving a just world that values and conserves nature'*.

He went on to talk about the objectives of the IUCN's involvement with the private sector and how the focus is industries in which most change is important, with significant environmental footprints, biodiversity-dependent industries, enterprises that can contribute to biodiversity, conservation and the finance sector. Although the IUCN does not count the private sector companies as members, there is a belief that they are part of the solution and therefore engage them in finding a common solution. Some of the private companies involved with the IUCN include: Shell, Rio-Tinto, Nespresso, Total, and Unilever. Some other Business & Biodiversity related initiatives are:

- Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels
- Rainforest Alliance-SAN Standards
- Forest Stewardship Council
- Marine Stewardship Council
- Leaders for Nature (Netherlands & Switzerland)
- Business & Biodiversity Offsets Program
- Global Reporting Initiative
- UNEP Finance Initiative
- The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB)

Deric finished by giving his thoughts on potential UK opportunities including the TEEB outcomes at the Global Business Biodiversity Symposium on 13th July in London, and ideas for packing reduction for supermarkets and the high street.

He then opened the floor for any questions.

How can IUCN get involved with UK opportunities? : Tim Nevard

Deric gave some ideas:

- Leaders for Nature- UK
- TEEB outcomes

- Event management: London hosting the 2010 Olympic Games- could IUCN get involved with this?
- Green utilities: electric distribution, can things be made green?
- IUCN to think about working with the supermarkets to reduce costs and packaging?
- Resource use and supply chains: food, bio-fuel, timber
- Best practice association- green building standards.
- Offsets- BBOP 'buddies'- can IUCN logo go on the ARUP knowledge cards?
- Opportunity in global agreements for UK to become involved in the oil and gas industry?

Regarding the ARUP knowledge cards; lots of companies have boards on the government, so it can create an influence for IUCN, which is another reason to get involved: Iain Valentine

Regarding the companies you work with, they are not obvious associations with IUCN, how do you choose your partners and do they have to make their company more environmentally friendly to be involved with IUCN? : Mark Wright

Deric responded they get involved with different industries, and look at champion companies, there are guidelines of how to get involved, the values are different but it's about how IUCN can influence them. These engagements are usually held by legal documents.

WWF don't work with oil companies on principle : Mark Wright

Deric informed Mark some of the agreements with these companies are on the IUCN intentional website for people to look at if they wish to look into it further.

As an observation, the businesses involved with IUCN are very big, is it convenient to say they are the ones that can influence as they have the most money? Consumers don't understand products as they are not informed enough the way certain products are produced and why it's bad for the environment, WWF and IUCN should inform the public more: Tim Nevard

Deric concluded consumers are the biggest problem, i.e. the problems this year in the Gulf of Mexico; cheap oil is ruining the environment.

Regarding the Rio-Tinto /Shell partnerships, with France, do IUCN get any issues with getting money from companies, and is it hard to get? : Jose Furtado

Deric confirmed they do get money, it tends to be before projects are started.

That concluded the end of questions.

Chris thanked all the speakers, he liked the urgency in Tim Nevard's presentation; we have to do big things now not later after learning of the stark reality of food production, Susan Clair's talk was a great look through the present situation of getting people together, common thinking and influence. With Deric Quale's talk there were lots of good ideas; London Wildlife Trust is the front line of the 2010 games, and members of IUCN providing partnership with global partners. It would be useful if we had guidelines for engagements with private sectors.

Chris ended the proceedings with thanking everyone for attending and hoped to see them and more member at next year's AGM.

Appendix I- 2009-10 Financial Records

IUCN UK Year accounts (01/04/2009 - 31/03/2010)

Note statement balance per 31/03/10 = £34,365.43
(this still includes the £12,400 SNH donated by mistake. Therefore the actual balance = £21,965.43)

RECEIPTS

Balance B/F from 31/03/09	£16,689.54	(this includes £12,500 from WCPA which belongs in the 'old' financial year)
Balance excluding £12,500	£4,189.54	
Members subscriptions	£15,827.50	
WiiFM Conference donations	£27,500.00	
WiiFM Conference fees	£2,446.50	
Bank Interest	£16.54	
TOTAL INCOME (i)	£49,980.08	

These expenditures belong into this financial year but show in April/May 2010 bank statements.

PAYMENTS

Chairs Expenses	£6,171.72	£611.13	£232.66	£67.09	£127.93
ExCo Meeting Expenses	£704.26				
WiiFM Conference	£21,091.26				
Newsletter	£457.12	£339.25	£339.25		
Protected areas working Group	£562.76	£562.76	£494.63	£68.13	
ICOMOS landscape working group	£91.74				
Secretariat Contract	£0.00*				
Other charges (bank statements, postage)	£30.25	£24.00	£24.00		
	£29,109.11				
Minus exp. that shows in new financial year	£1,537.14				
TOTAL OUTGOINGS (ii)	£27,571.97				
BALANCE (i) minus (i)	£22,408.11	£1,537.14			
Difference	£442.68				
Adrian Phillips expenses 'old' year	£32.60				
	£410.08	this is what is still 'missing'			

* Fees waved for the first year (£9000.00)

Appendix II- Attendance List

Name	Organisation	Email
Chris Mahon	Ex.Co/ Chair	mahon276@btinternet.com
Tom Tew	Ex.Co/ Natural England	Tom.Tew@naturalengland.org.uk
Dr. Mike Pienkowski	UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum	m@pienkowski.org
Harriet Nimmo	Ex.Co/ Wildscreen	harriet.nimmo@wildscreen.org.uk
Mark Wright	Ex.Co/ WWF-UK	mwright@wwf.org.uk
Trevor Salmon	Ex.Co/ Defra	Trevor.Salmon@defra.gsi.gov.uk
Sarah Robinson	Ex.Co/ IUCN-UK Secretariat	srobinson@rzss.org.uk
Iain Valentine	Ex.Co/ IUCN-UK Secretariat	ivalentine@rzss.org.uk
Jennifer Cocker	Ex.Co/ IUCN-UK Secretariat	jcocker@rzss.org.uk
Susanna Söderström	IUCN International	Susanna.SODERSTROM@iucn.org
Deric Quaile	IUCN Business & Biodiversity Programme	Deric.QUAILE@iucn.org
Tim Nevard	CEO of Conservation Grade farming scheme	tim.nevard@conservationgrade.org
Susan Clairs	ARUP, London	susan.clairs@arup.com
Juliette Bailey	International Fur Trade Federation	dwaite@iff.com
Rebecca Hildreth	International Fur Trade Federation	dwaite@iff.com
Miranda F. Stevenson	BIAZA	director@biaza.org.uk
Georgina Groves	BIAZA	conservation@biaza.org.uk
Kathleen Edie	Blue Ventures Conservation	kathleen@blueventures.org.
Sally Hayns	Institute of Ecology & Environmental Management (IEEM)	sallyhayns@ieem.net
Jason Reeves	Institute of Ecology & Environmental Management (IEEM)	jasonreeves@ieem.net
Emmanuel Fredenthal	Forest People Programme	Emmanuel@forestpeoples.org.
Margaret Ramsay	Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew	M.Ramsay@kew.org
Carole Moncoquet (student)	Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew	M.Ramsay@kew.org
Jose I dos R Furtado	Centre for Environmental Planning	jose.furtado@imperial.ac.uk
Dr. Alan McElligott	Queen Mary University of London	a.g.mcelligott@qmul.ac.uk
Caroline Ryan	Thinking Partner	root@thinkingpartner.com
Simon Stuart	IUCN UK Council	simon.stuart@iucn.org

Appendix III- Apologies list

Name	Organisation
Sue Stolton	Equilibrium Research
Nigel Dudley	Equilibrium Research
John Burton	Worldland Trust
Tim Stowe	RSPB
Dominique Benzaken	IUCN International
IUCN International	Falklands Conservation
Jill Nelson	People's Trust for Endangered Animals
Paul Wilkinson	The Wildlife Trusts
Jodie Bettis	Wildlife & Countryside Link
Elizabeth Hughes	International Centre for Protected Landscapes
Mark Rose	Fauna-Flora International
James Burton	Earthwatch
Jeremy Hulme	Society for the Protection of Animals Abroad
Paul Masterton	Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust
Bryan Carroll	Bristol Zoo
Jen Anderson	Scotlink (Scottish Environment Link)
Martin Price	WCPA and CEM
Jim Conroy	Celtic Environment
Roger Crofts	Plantlife
Malcolm Forster	Fresh Fields
Nicholas Aebischer	Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust
Mike Jordan	The Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)
Prof. Colin T. Reid	University of Dundee
Gordon Miller	International Ranger Federation
David Hunt	IOS Secretary/IUCN-SSC member
Andrea Deri	Office of the Hungarian Parliamentary Commissioner for Future Generations
Prof. John Gunn	Limestone Research Group
Julian Kinderlerer	University of Cape Town
Dr Sarah Dalrymple	Aberdeen Centre for Environmental Sustainability (ACES)
Richard Kock	The Zoological Society of London
Martin Price	WCPA and CEM
Jim Conroy	Celtic Environment
Malcolm Payne	SSC Commission