

Xth General Assembly of the ICCA Consortium

Sunday 18 and Monday 19 December 2016
Felipe Carrillo Puerto (Yucatán, Mexico)

Minutes: Sunday 18 December 2016

Members, Honorary members and observers sit by regional groupings

decisions still to be taken into effect

decided and – since then -- already done or in progress

to be noted by the Steering Committee and Secretariat

08:30 Welcome by the President, reading, comments and adoption of the overall Agenda

- Agenda is read, accepted and adopted by acclamation.

President's report since the General Assembly of December 2015

- ICCAs are gaining ground in the international arena
- Thanked Julio Moure, Emma Courtine, Albert Chan Dzul, Holly Jonas, Sarah Ryder and Grazia
- Highlights of the year –
 - three GSI regional events - Southern Africa (Namibia), Mesoamerica (Guatemala) and West Africa (Senegal).
 - Regional analysis in Mesoamerica
 - COP 13 in Cancun, December 2016.
 - WCC in September
 - SAFE partnership with Friends of the Earth International
 - New website for the Consortium
 - First Consortium Flash Event

Motion to note the President's Report – Approved by acclamation

Round call of Consortium Members and Honorary members -- highlights of ICCA situation, work accomplished, perspectives and priorities

International organisation representatives

ICCA Registry - Naomi Kingston –

- manual for submitting information available in several languages

- new website – will feed information to the Global Biodiversity Outlook
- 130 sites on the registry now, but we want to increase that

Man and the Biosphere Reserves - Didier Babin –

- Peru organised the 4th World Congress on Biosphere Reserves
- 669 biosphere reserves in 120 countries, with 100,000,000 people living in them
- Vision of MAB - ‘a world where people are conscious of their common future and interaction with our planet and act collectively and responsibly to build thriving societies in harmony with the overall biosphere’

ICCA Global Support Initiative (GSI) - Singay Dorji –

- Three key objectives of Global ICCA Support Initiative – 1) policy review 2) knowledge sharing 3) work with ICCAs on the ground
- The capacity grant has been given to all 26 of the target countries
- Three capacity building workshops already, 2017 - policy review and a workshop in Kyrgyzstan

North America - Joe Martin (Canada) – Tla-o-qui-aht peoples, Vancouver Island have declared their whole traditional territory as a Tribal Park. **Kim Wright** (Canada) – Canadian Government has announced that it will recognise ICCAs as contributing to Aichi Target 11. **Stan Stephens** (USA) – Expect indigenous issues in the defence of rights will escalate. North Dakota – there is major resistance and the largest ever gathering of tribes at Standing Rock to stop a pipeline.

Europe - Aili Pyhälä (Finland) - process in Finland for the management and registering of PAs, negotiating with the Sami to allow them to write the management plan. Rest of Europe – there is a movement happening with the commons. *Local Biodiversity Outlooks; Indigenous Peoples’ and Local Communities’ Contributions to the Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020* launched at COP 13: <http://localbiodiversityoutlooks.net/>

Pacific - Chrissy Grant (Australia) - There are currently 76 Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs), with 5 or 6 crossing seaways. However, there is uncertainty with the contracts with the government on IPAs. **Kevin Chang** (Hawaii) – Kua’aina Ulu Auamo (means “grassroots growing through shared opportunity”) created by a group of stewardship groups to take care of traditional agriculture, sacred and marine sites in Hawaii.

West and Central Asia - Ghanimat Azhdari (Iran) – we now have a strong network of ICCAs in the region and beyond (Iran, Lebanon, Jordan, Pakistan, Turkmenistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Turkey, Kuwait, Iraq). This includes government agencies and civil society, mostly from IPLC in the region.

NE Asia - Sutej Hugu (Taiwan, Province of China) - August 1st 2016 the President issued formal apology to indigenous people and initiated a truth committee for transitional justice. Half of Taiwan (Province of China) is in the traditional territories of IP – overlapping with national forest and PA system. China – Taghi and Stan Stevens supported the first ICCA workshop on customary law, rights and territory, local knowledge and community knowledge. Japan – proposed an information exchange between ICCA Consortium and the Satoyama Initiative.

SE Asia - Tanya Conlu (Philippines) - several ICCA events and accessed GSI funds for SE Asia. Philippines – there is a funded project with 10 sites. Cambodia – looking for resources to work on ICCAs. **Gordon John Thomas** (Malaysia) – GSI programme started and proposal submitted. Supporting appropriate legal recognition of ICCAs, especially recognition of traditional resource management system. Indigenous Peoples of Malaysia network. **Cristina Eghenter** (Indonesia) - Working group on ICCAs in Indonesia. Revised Law on biodiversity still needs to be worked out. **Paul Sein Twa** (Burma) – IP rights not recognised. The IUCN report in Burma talks about ICCAs as a tool to reach Aichi Targets. A lot of our time and effort is being put into defending our rights. Government is considering changes to the laws that concern IPs. Trying to gain international recognition for the “peace park” programme.

Africa - Patricia Mupeta (Zambia) – Forestry Act recognises community rights but no recognition of ICCAs yet. Assessing what ICCAs look like so the public and government know. This will then fit into the national framework. **Vincent Ziba** (Zambia) - SGP in Tanzania, Namibia and Kenya, offering capacity grants. Have made some progress recognising the role of communities managing wildlife. **Fenosoa Andriamahenina** (Madagascar) – 400-community (*fokololona*) organisation network (Tafo Mihaavo). Traditional communities – based in the terrestrial and coastal marine areas. 2016 organised training on rights and responsibilities of communities; maintained monthly meetings with network of technicians from NGOs, universities and governments; supported people against mining, wood exportation, etc; contributed to a UNDRIP report. **Vatosoa Rakotondrazafy** (Madagascar) – Mihari Network (200 ICCAs supported by 20 NGOs and 3 government agencies) - forums including government officials, NGOs and communities; facing pressure from industrial fisheries; supporting marine ICCAs; training ICCA leaders; marine ICCA recognised by government as way to reach Aichi Targets and Promise of Sydney. **Zealelem Tefera** (Ethiopia) –grim year for unrecognised ICCAs (land grabbing, mega project dams, sugar cane plantations), many community members who could be considered to have an ICCA are in jail (order of 1000 people). **Fatai Aina** (Benin) – AMAF Benin joined Consortium last October. System of ICCAs not recognised yet. Some effort has been made by IPs themselves. **Dominique Bikaba** (Democratic Republic of Congo) – Strong Roots - setting up a national network of ICCAs, up to 1 million ha of forests (50% of all African forest is in the Congo). Looking for active members. Working with Uganda and Kenya. Law just passed on Community Forestry to extend PAs. Trying to ensure that community forest is truly governed as an ICCA.

Latin America - José Aylwin (Chile) – 1) empowering Consortium organisations on biodiversity and PAs in Chile - prospects that there will be acknowledgement of ICCAs. 2) Easter Island – Rapa Nui got partial management in 2016 and full management in 2017. **Jorge Nahuel** (Mapuche, from Argentina and Chile border) –opportunities for the Mapuche people and tribes to control our territories, pressuring state to discuss issues like resource control, ancient systems of land are now our national park system. ICCAs as a concept give us useful tools for negotiation with National Parks and advancing indigenous rights. **Rosario Barradas Cuqui** (Bolivia) – problems with 6 indigenous territories and mega projects and huge hydro dams. In the constitution that indigenous rights are protected but in practice, rights are not respected. Asked Consortium for support. **Jairo Diaz** (Ecuador) - no legally recognised ICCAs in Ecuador. 2 regional workshops led to workplans for the countries that participated and commitment from state actors for the recognition of ICCAs. ICCAs known as ‘territorios de buen vivir’ (territories for good life). We need more capacity building, tools and methodologies, legal tools and more clarity in finance mechanisms for implementing agreements. **Raul Petsain** (Ecuador) – explained the case of the Shuar Arutam people whose ICCA is especially threatened by the government. Requested help from the

Consortium. **Juan Chavez** (Peru) – talked about Shipibo indigenous people of the Amazon. Government has offered IP land for sale. Showed handicrafts. We continue to work as a tribal community to manage our forest. **Felipe Gomez** (Guatemala) – looking for community organisations and civil society that want to get involved, have a national committee and a technical team – sociologists, lawyers, teachers. Our problem is how to do lobby work, we don't have legal tools. International tools don't stop mega projects from advancing. **Silvel Elias** (Guatemala) – speaker from the university, supporting ICCA communities. Has 25 case studies to show how they work, make them visible, show how they solve their problems and show how women and youth are included. This is the workplan for next 5 years - widen and strengthen ICCAs and make the government recognise their work and stop extractives activities.

ICCA Consortium Programme Report 2016

Powerpoint Presentation available here – (<https://www.dropbox.com/s/baqsxhtrjuzelao/1%20-%20Programme%20Report%202016.pptx?dl=0> **1. Programme Report 2016**)

Overview of 2016 provided by Grazia –

- General Assembly needs to understand and own its role as governance of the Consortium
- Information on Consortium is available from the website www.iccaconsortium.org-- about to be entirely revamped
We make many materials available in 3 languages-- a huge effort for the Consortium
- Thanks to Swedbio, whose support enabled a large number of delegates to take part in CBD COP 13 and the GA
- Funding for Consortium comes primarily from the Christensen Fund and UNDP GSI. We obtained a new grant from TCF in 2016. GSI is ongoing and work is expanding in 26 priority countries (and many more)
- GSI initiatives in the 26 countries are not uniformly successful. Complex to deal with the specificities of all the countries and GEF SGP programmes and partners there
- International level work on legislation and policy provides a supportive environment for work at national and local level
- National create a critical mass of support to change policy and practice about ICCAs—start from national ICCA networks, which can take various forms...
- Regional workshops – there have been three workshops in 2016
- International developments
 - crucial achievement at CBD COP 13 – including specific invitation to CBD Parties to support ICCAs, and specific mention of the Consortium in CBD decisions
 - SAFE partnership with FoEI – MoU signed and we have a coordinator. Expanding collaboration to include governance and food sovereignty.
 - DOCIP provide translation services (amongst many other forms of support) for IP at international meetings in Geneva and New York. They may be prepared to help at next GA of Consortium.
 - Policy briefs – presented recent publications and those that are still in progress or planned.

- The institutional life of the Consortium takes many weeks of work.

Individual reports from Coordinators -

Holly Jonas (International Policy Coordinator) –

- expanded beyond nature conservation into climate change, food sovereignty, IP rights, human rights...
- UN special rapporteur on human rights meeting attended by Ashish Kothari in Geneva
- Food and agriculture – need more work on EU and CAP policy brief
- SDGs –policy brief to be extended to how ICCAs can incorporate a different approach to development
- Consortium should investigate international investment links (Chinese, Malaysia in palm oil in Africa, etc)

Kim Wright (Global Coordinator for Coastal, Marine and Island Environments) - Has been doing presentations about ICCAs in the marine context. CBD COP 13 – also looked at impacts on conservation and marine ICCAs

Tanya Conlu (Regional Coordinator – Southeast Asia) - Indonesia has used other grants (before GSI) to work on ICCAs in the past.

Taghi and Ghanimat Azhdari (representing **Leila Vaziri Zanjani**, Regional Coordinator – West Asia) - Networking is important as many communities are very isolated. Georgia (a GSI country) – worked with IPs to develop database and help understanding of ICCAs. Food sovereignty/security – a meeting was held. Transboundary workshop built a strong network in the region. **Koosha Dab** –submitted 3 EPSAs (marine regions) that overlap with ICCAs. Invited to participate in defining EPSAs. **Sepideh Shakeri** – participatory 3D mapping of island coastal park to help resistance to chemical, oil and industrial industries. Programme will be expanded to other countries in the region.

Vincent Ziba (Regional Coordinator – East and Southern Africa) – Newly working in the region; regional workshop - Namibia, Zambia, Kenya and Tanzania; many areas are protected; role of sacred sites is important in ICCAs; often the focus is on wildlife as a source of resources for conservation (Namibia).

Albert Chan Dzul (Regional Coordinator – Mesoamerica) – workshop including El Salvador, Guatemala, Bolivia, Belize and Suriname; Facebook page to include relevant topics in Spanish; logistics for CBD COP 13 and GA; Mexico workshop; working toward national strategy; Honduras – participated in a wide-ranging meeting; participated in CBD COP 13; trying to build trust amongst groups.

Lorena Arce (Regional Coordinator - Cono Sur and Focal Point for the Consortium for Latin America in general) —there is a lot of work at international level but implementation at local level is difficult. Focused in Chile and Paraguay. GSI is slow. Chile – new law is an opportunity to bring ICCA terminology to the local level as people do not understand the language of CBD policies.

Carmen Miranda (Regional Coordinator – Amazon) – Loss of traditional knowledge happens quickly, focussing on this area, developed a tool for risk monitoring (available online soon). Working with women leaders to connect areas of resistance to gas, oil, mining, pipelines, ports and dams, monoculture and infrastructure development. **Asked for more resources**. Held workshop on extractive industries.

Carolina Amaya (Spanish Communication Specialist and Focal Point for the ICCA Consortium in Colombia) – Done a lot of translation for the website to help IP and others understand the concept of ICCAs. Published a booklet and video to identify ICCAs around the world.

Sutej Hugu (Regional Coordinator – East Asia) – International ICCA workshop in Taiwan, first one, initiated by an Honorary member, Vietnam colleagues were invited. Common statement on ICCAs in China.

Motion to note the Programme Report – proposed by Taghi Farvar, seconded by Maurizio Ferrari (FPP). Approved by acclamation.

Communications report: Strategy adopted so far, assessment, perspectives, new tools (in particular new ICCA website) and desired ICCA communication results

Powerpoint Presentation available here –

(<https://www.dropbox.com/s/ohqolo6az9wokr7/2.%20Communication%20report%202016.pptx?dl=0>

2. Communications Report 2016)

2016 accomplishments presented by Emma Courtine -

- Improving issue of languages – English, Spanish, French
- Two refreshed mailing lists – Spanish and French for news only in those languages
- Improvements to Facebook – pages available in Spanish for Latin America and English. Please for each region – set up a Facebook page!
- On the international Facebook and Twitter – 956 followers, do we want more?
- Newsletters – 2016 saw two issues, 2017 will have three issues
- Colombia contribution – leaflet of three pages explaining what ICCAs are in Spanish
- New website - front page split into one part for ICCAs and another part for ICCA Consortium, easier access to documentation, new regional pages, main pages available in three languages, will be finalised early in 2017
- Ways to improve communication - define objectives, improve internal communication, improve visual identity of Consortium, promote complex and non-destructive understanding of ICCAs

Toward 2017 - promotion of regional social media, promotion of Twitter, three newsletters, reflection on visual identity, finalisation of website as a platform for better communication.

Questions and comments about communications

A discussion of communication issues followed. Key comments/questions were -

- **Audience**
 - Who is the audience – CBD, public, participators, CEOs, technocrats, policy makers?

- Communications are currently for technocrats and people who already know what ICCAs are.
- **Objectives of communication –**
 - We have lots of voices in publications but we need to give a voice to the ICCAs.
 - Important for any organisation to publicise the ethical principles under which you operate.
 - Standards need to be stated. How do you work with indigenous people and local communities?
 - Need to set up objectives you want to achieve before anything else. What is the role of communication and the website, who do you want to reach?
- **Strategic priorities -**
 - Need overall strategic priorities of the Consortium before a communication strategy
 - Communication touches the values of the Consortium - objectives, exchange of good practice, target audience, what tools are needed, feedback
 - Policy briefs and websites should look more “professional”
 - protection of IPs rights, especially women and children - Consortium should take a position
- **The website –**
 - too serious, need more emotion, real diverse stories from diverse countries, stories are effective, advocacy, videos (currently making a three minute, ‘visiting card’ video for start of website)
 - ICCA Consortium is an amazing network but the website doesn’t reflect this – need to focus more on good practice exchange, should reflect values of Consortium
 - Alienation from the website, something is missing. It is unique but marginalised and is missing the root and kernel of practice and tradition.
 - Issue of resources. Could we include a donation button?
 - Need to combine the two souls of the Consortium – stories, songs and images and policy making - why is policy not making sense on the ground?
- **Newsletter –**
 - If many of us are not reading the newsletter, it could be because it is not designed for us.
- **Communications team –**
 - Need a communications team – specific person for conventional media, social media

Questions, contributions and general discussion on the programme report

Taghi - we didn’t create Consortium as a small thinking organisation, programmatic work for 2017-2019 should be more ambitious - show that most countries have **MORE** than 17% of conserved areas by 2020.

Didier Babin – most important thing for Consortium is to inspire the rest of the world, not just in protected areas but sustainable development for a % of the whole planet.

Vololona Rasoarimanana – in Madagascar PA are in Fokololona territories rather than vice versa - managed sustainably.

Dominique Bikaba – Should look at tools for ICCAs in risk management – must ensure that communities and IP don't constitute a risk for their territories.

Vincent Ziba – looking at national policies, it is exciting to see ICCAs in CBD decisions. We should target making ICCAs recognised nationally. This could be a target for GSI countries.

Grazia – asked for ICCA related indicators to be adopted at CBD COP 13 – successful.

Stan Stevens – overlap of pa and ICCAs is a widespread phenomenon. IUCN has asked Consortium to work to identify guidelines on best practices. This is an enormous opportunity and needs to be acted on now.

Maurizio Ferrari – Consortium should move beyond conservation and link it to sustainable use, we need to synergise our actions in various networks. A way to support Aichi targets is to support IPs and LCs on the ground, most biodiversity is in their hands. Focus on aims of CBD rather than those of IUCN as it is a higher body.

Silvel Elias – What is important is the model of the ICCA, helps with arguments with government. Challenge for researchers is to develop more alliances to make research more participatory, following Eleanor Ostrom's approach.

Didier Babin – Consortium has a lot to say on the subject of biodiversity. Need to develop alliances with NGOs and countries to develop 2nd CBD protocol on sustainable use, always forgotten.

Grazia – Biological diversity only exists in certain territories which must be conserved. Need to link benefits of conservation to governance by IPLCs. How can you conserve diversity without conserving the territory?

Joe Martin – overlaps have affected many communities including the removal of traditional artefacts. Governments have no right to include tribes with their territory negotiations. Tribes manage for abundance but not governments.

Carmen Miranda – Consortium must contribute to show ICCAs in a different way to how it has. Different perspective of IP and their relationship with nature, not a financial value. Some NGOs offer a salary to IP to retain traditional knowledge and use of resources. Need to demonstrate this will result in us being lost.

Statutes and Operational Guidelines– Recap and discussion of proposed changes

Proposed change to the Statutes of the Consortium – Swiss Law requires the specification of the number of members of the Steering Committee. The Statutes currently specify from 7 – 11 members. A proposal was made to change this to 7 – 17, the proposal now is to increase this to 7 - 21.

Prior to the General Assembly 10 comments were submitted, 8 approved the change and 2 disapproved of the change.

Discussion based on the proposal -

- Consortium is growing in membership at 20% per year. Consortium has evolved and needs more than 11 SC members.
- The Steering Committee should play a more powerful and active role, a larger committee will allow for this (can use thematic sub-committees), also gives a wider geographic range.
- IUCN and GIF have 30 – 36 in their steering committees and they work well. When the Consortium started, there were only 4 Members, now we need more representation.
- Swiss law – no specification on number of Steering Committee members needed for quorum.
- Speaking from the SC – you can't have one person representing each region, this is not possible.
- More important than number of SC members is model of governance of the Consortium. What is strategy? Those who are closest to the local realities are the most important. There is a need for thematic areas to cover more CBD themes. We need representation from the LA highlands ecosystem. There is a need for plenty of exchanges for specific topic areas to improve those areas of understanding.
- Many members of the current SC are representatives of ICCAs.
- The people who have been on the SC for a long time, have a good perspective of what the views of Members are, but watch out.
- Steering Committee representation is less important than membership representation.
- There is currently only one SC member from Africa, this is a big challenge.
- SC members should be diverse and they should be responsible for a number of activities.
- Increased membership is good as it will strengthen the SC.
- Could have some rotating responsibilities.
- SC can co-opt new members if necessary. We don't want to keep increasing the number every year. Currently we don't need 21 but it will allow for changes if necessary in the future.

Motion to accept the proposed change of the Statutes to allow for 7 – 21 members of the Steering Committee – proposed by Taghi Farvar, seconded by Kevin Chang (Kua'aina Ulu Auamo) and José Aylwin (Observatorio Ciudadano). Approved by acclamation.

Proposal to approve the Operational Guidelines as circulated to the membership prior to the General Assembly

Comments were submitted prior to the General Assembly. Prior to them being read out, a discussion happened on whether proposals from non-members can be included at the GA. A separate Contact Group was formed (Taghi, Grazia and Harry Jonas) to meet and agree how motions to change the Operational Guidelines can happen. To report back tomorrow.

Proposal to reduce the evaluation time for membership applications from 60 days to 30 days –

- Proposed to speed up the application process. Part of Operational Guidelines not Statutes.
- Need to discuss who will present Members to the Consortium.
- Ethics of Members - What happens if a Member misbehaves in the judgement of another Member? We could propose a new rule to make damage to ICCAs a punishable action.
- Suggest that when a new Member is proposed, they must be supported by other national Members.

Vote on changes to membership policy put off to tomorrow, after the Contact Group reports back.

Membership Report

Powerpoint Presentation available here –

(<https://www.dropbox.com/s/znlpssccta0hzii/3.%20Membership%20Report%202016.ppt?dl=0>

3. Membership Report 2016)

Emma Courtine presented the Membership Report for the Consortium 2016.

Motion to note the Membership Report – proposed by Taghi Farvar, seconded by Joe Martin (Tla O qui aht). Approved by acclamation.

Proposals for new Members and Honorary members

Emma Courtine read out proposals for new Members and Honorary members

1. **ANAPAC** (Alliance Nationale d'Appui et de Promotion des Aires du Patrimoine Autochtone et Communautaire) – Democratic Republic of Congo.
2. **Organisation Communautaire pour la Conservation de la Nature** (OCCN) – Democratic Republic of Congo.
3. **KABEKA** (Kamalar Be Kafanté) – Senegal.
4. **Asociación de Mujeres Waorani de la Amazonía Ecuatoriana** (AMWAE) – Ecuador.
5. **Green Revolution Promoter** (GREEN PRO) - Liberia.
6. **Consejo Zonal Lafkence de la Confederacion Mapuche de Neuquen** – located in Mapuche territory, Argentina.
7. **Kua'aina Ulu 'Auamo** (KUA) - Hawaii.
8. **Kesan** (Karen Environmental & Social Action Network) – Thailand.
9. **Enda énergie** – Senegal.

Motion to exclude Green Pro, Liberia and accept the following as Members of the Consortium – ANAPAC; Organisation Communautaire pour la Conservation de la Nature; KABEKA; Asociacion de Mujeres Waorani de la Amazonia Ecuatoriana; Consejo Zonal Lafkence de la Confederacion Mapuche de Neuquen; Kua'aina Ulu 'Auamo; Kesan; Enda énergie
Proposed by Taghi Farvar, seconded by Maurizio Ferrari (Forest Peoples Programme). Approved by acclamation.

Final Treasurer's Report for 2015 and preliminary Treasurer's Report for 2016; Reading of the Report of the Auditor of the Accounts.

Powerpoint Presentation available here –

(<https://www.dropbox.com/s/1fxixfgh1jk1mb/4.%20Treasurer%27s%20Report%202015%20and%20Interim%20Report%202016.pptx?dl=0> **4. Treasurer's Report 2015 and Interim Treasurer's Report 2016)**

Stan Stevens (Treasurer) presented the final Treasurer's Report for 2015. **Maurizio Ferrari** (Auditor of Accounts) – I'm satisfied with the accounts so I suggest that we approve them and commend the Treasurer and the Accountant for the incredible amount of time taken in the preparation of these accounts. No qualifications to this approval were noted.

Motion to accept the 2015 Accounts – proposed by Taghi Farvar, seconded by Joe Martin (Tla O qui aht). Approved by acclamation.

Stan Stevens (Treasurer) presented the Interim Treasurer's Report for the first six months of 2016. **Maurizio Ferrari** – as a preliminary Treasurer's Report, this does not have to be approved.

20:00 - President closed the meeting for the day

Minutes: Monday 19 December 2016

08:30 Welcome by the President

Meeting of the Operational Guidelines contact group last night. **Harry Jonas** reported - ICCA Consortium is an open space for many voices. This is critical. Members and Honorary members are invited to the GA and can participate fully. The final voting and decision making is taken only by Members. We discuss issues, and anyone can have a say. Then the Chair will ask if there is consensus in the room, if not, then the Chair will ask for consensus from the Members. If consensus cannot be reached among the Members, there will be a vote.

Chrissie Grant - There needs to be a clear process so the decisions of the Consortium cannot be challenged. Freedom of information act will allow for access to the minutes and the process that was followed when a decision was made. Proper processes safeguard the organisation for the future and for donors. If a vote is necessary, the concerned individual should step out of the room. **Taghi** - all Statutes and decisions are written up and sent to the Members and they are also online. **Grazia** – there was part of the discussion in the contact group that is about refining the broader membership policy. Suggestions are welcome from Members and Honorary members. **Harry Jonas will canvas input and will consolidate the feedback and work to improve the process.** That includes Members stepping out during voting time. Minutes must reflect who is present and who has voted and how. Minutes should be circulated and voted on at the beginning of the next general assembly. Today we will have strategic discussions about where the organisation is going. If that changes what we think about the membership policy, we can discuss it after the strategic discussion.

Proposals for new Members and Honorary members

Several proposals for new Members and Honorary members did not happen yesterday due to communication delays.

1. Felipe Gomez (on behalf of Oxlajuj Ajpop, Guatemala) proposed one new Member and four Honorary members. The proposed Member is **Centro de Investigación y Difusión de la Ciencia Maya Oxlajuj B'aqtun**, Guatemala (a centre of biodiversity research). The Honorary members proposed are -

Marcos de Jesús Agasaja, Edgar Selvin Pérez, María Emilce Mateo Diego, Alejandra Sobenes

Felipe was asked to leave the room.

Motion to accept Centro de Investigación y Difusión de la Ciencia Maya Oxlajuj B'aqtun as a Member organisation and Marcos de Jesús Agasaja, Edgar Selvin Pérez, María Emilce Mateo Diego and Alejandra Sobenes as Honorary member - proposed by Taghi Farvar, seconded by Carmen Miranda (SAVIA). Approved by acclamation.

2. Albert Chan Dzul proposed that **Yich Lu'um A.C**, Mexico be accepted as Member of the Consortium –

Albert left the room.

Motion to accept Yich Lu'um A.C as a Member organisation - proposed by Taghi Farvar, seconded by Joe Martin (Tla O qui aht). Approved by acclamation.

3. Rosario Barradas Cuqui left the room.

Carmen Miranda proposed that **Rosario Barradas Cuqui** be accepted as Honorary member of the Consortium

Motion to accept Rosario Barradas Cuqui as an Honorary member - proposed by Taghi Farvar, seconded by Joe Martin (Tla O qui aht). Approved by acclamation.

Statement from the Floor: **from today there will be no new Members accepted until the new membership policy is adopted.**

A review of the Consortium Strategy including key questions for 2017-2020

Grazia introduced Fred Nelson (Honorary member and representative of Maliasili - a Member organisation) –supported many Members in Africa, both personal and strategic support for individuals and organisations. He has designed an analysis of the Strategy of the Consortium.

Participants are divided into small buzz groups (twos and threes) and asked to answer the following questions –

1. **What are the Consortium's most important achievements in the past five years?**
 - raised the profile, understanding and influence of ICCAs globally, very significantly

- growth of the Consortium to a global network without compromising integrity at grassroots
- changed discourse at the CBD and the IUCN – ICCA Consortium now recognised
- managing to raise funding from UNDP GSI and other sources
- overall expansion of coalition and network at local, national, regional and international level
- evolution of the Consortium's understanding of the conservation concept not only as biological conservation but as cultural and livelihood protection
- involvement of IPLC as actors within the Consortium, growing the movement to raise voices of communities
- impact at local, national, regional and international levels on advocacy and recognition of ICCAs as OECMs
- ICCAs progressively implement policy at the national and international level
- impact on the intermediation construction and application of a normative framework at the global level (incidencia en la intermetocion construccion y aplicacion de un marco normative a nivel global)
- consolidated a culturally diverse global movement that has initiated a discourse on human rights, indigenous rights and the rights of nature in the international agenda (consolidado un movimiento global y de diversided cultural que posiciona un discurso de derechos humanos, derechos indigenas y derechos de la naturaleza en la agenda international)

2. What do you want the Consortium's major achievements to be by 2020?

- demonstrated that the major part of the world is conserved by ICCAs
- ICCAs have become so powerful that threats to their existence and vitality have been eliminated
- created an understanding of the real extent of ICCAs globally with appropriate recognition, respect and support for the rights of IPLC ad their ICCAs including when overlapping with PAs
- secured sustainable financing and core funding for the operation of the Consortium
- strengthen organisational and regional structures to maximise efficiency and efficacy
- increased ability to influence national and local policies and laws and practices
- stronger linkages to related movements – like land, forests, rivers, extractive, etc
- more Members are representatives of IPLC than NGOs and this is recognised internationally
- full recognition of the contribution of ICCAs in the strategic plan for biodiversity, SDG's, Paris Agreement on climate change, the UNDRIP and other human rights conventions
- IP and LC voices are listened to and expressed directly without mediation nor interpretation from others (researchers, advisors, etc.)
- highlighting emblematic communities within territories – empowerment of the peoples
- a movement with strong allies to stop destructive threats against ICCAS
- ICCAs are respected and recognised as strong, resilient governance systems against development aggression at the local and national levels

- that ICCAs are legally recognised as protected areas in all the countries where Members are based and that every country of Africa recognises at least one ICCA
- increase successful experience of governance and management of/by IP and LC
- support ICCAs in their incidence in legal and political set in countries

Existing Consortium Strategy and preliminary plan for 2017

Grazia presented the current Consortium Strategy and preliminary plan for 2017 and stressed that the workplan for 2017 necessarily must meet the obligation we have with our donors. But we should also consolidate and innovate.

Powerpoint Presentation available here –

(<https://www.dropbox.com/s/v9d4xq6ajxg6dgx/5.%20Programme%20Plan%20%26%20Budget%202017.pptx?dl=0> **5. Programme Plan & Budget 2017**)

Fred Nelson – when thinking about strategy we should ask two key questions – where are you going? and what do you need to get there (resources, money and relationships)? The strategy will change all the time so we need perspective to be effective. Need to emphasise the process and maintain a healthy state of questioning.

Powerpoint Presentation available here –

(<https://www.dropbox.com/s/qcht19jxbqwmdbj/6.%20Consortium%20Strategic%20Review%20Dec%2019.pptx?dl=0> **6. Consortium Strategy Report**)

Commentary during presentation:

- national scale is vital with regards to control of resources and lands
- Consortium influential within CBD and IUCN, needs to strengthen its reach beyond this
- major risks – human resources (staff and leadership) and funding
- the drive has been based on action – not as much formally focused on risks of the organisational structure
- the Consortium is the leading organisation on IPLC

Questions from the floor about the presentation -

- Did you delve into any aspects of current Member satisfaction? - *first step was a Member survey to understand what are the most valuable things the Consortium does for its Members.*
- How can we avoid global representation becoming skewed to areas where we have a strong standing? - *the review of the Membership Strategy could look at that.*
- Based on your analysis, what is the Consortium, a consortium of NGOs or IPAs? - *we have both.*
- Do you have any findings about the relationship between the Consortium and other IP networks? - *my role was canvassing within the Consortium.*

- The Consortium has a strong role to play and this should be included in the Strategy. Who are the crocodiles? - *the transition process is about balancing and achieving a lot with few relationships.*
- How much money do we need based on our rate of growth to achieve our targets? – *I cannot answer this, but it is unlikely that the Consortium will be able to maintain what it does without more money.*
- Succession plan –doesn't just apply to the Global Coordinator but also some of the Members. – *young, new generation of leadership is an asset which must be supported to ensure the best use of resources.*

Questions and working groups

Participants formed into four groups to discuss sets of questions from the presentation as follows -

- Group 1 Global Policy and Discourse (facilitated by Holly Jonas and Jose Aylwin)
 - What are the key opportunities and targets to pursue in existing forums such as the CBD and IUCN?
 - Should the Consortium target new arenas such as the SDGs or UNFCCC, or others?
 - What are the costs and benefits of engaging in new arenas such as the SDGs, UNFCCC or others?
 - What do we expect to gain for ICCAs that we cannot gain in existing focal arenas?
 - Should the Consortium prioritise influencing broader conservation discourse outside specialized policy spaces as a key part of its Strategy?

See copy of group notes here

(<https://www.dropbox.com/s/h06b5xrw5l9fx/Notes%20from%20Strategy%20Discussion%20Group%201.docx.jpg?dl=0>) Notes from Strategy Discussion Group 1)

- Group 2 National Action and Members (facilitated by Cristina Eghenter and Carolina Amaya)
 - How can the Consortium best support national networks and implementation?
 - What services and support do national networks and members need?
 - How can the membership of the organization play a greater role in supporting, resourcing, and leading the Consortium's work?
 - How can the Consortium better engage and support its members?

See copy of group notes here

(<https://www.dropbox.com/s/hd4a39zo6gussbs/Notes%20from%20Strategy%20Discussion%20Group%202.docx?dl=0>) Notes from Strategy Discussion Group 2)

- Group 3 Technical Tools and Communication (facilitated by Isis Alvarez and Patricia Mupeta)
 - Who are the key audiences for the Consortium's technical tools, information and resources?
 - What are the most effective ways of packaging and communicating tools and information to reach different audiences?
 - How can the Consortium improve the way communications supports national networks, members, policy advocacy, and fundraising?

- What skills and resources does the Consortium need to improve its communications?

See copy of group notes here

(https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3dpihkk66t414p4/AAA_hrFfjUI5YLedppoE5fyMa?dl=0 Notes from Strategy Discussion Group 3)

- Group 4 People, Structure and Governance (facilitated by Lorena Arce and Sarah Ryder)
 - How should the structure of the Consortium change and evolve?
 - What changes are needed for the Regional Coordinators to be better able to deliver support to members and other actors and fulfil their critical role within the Consortium?
 - Should the Consortium add key functions in the Secretariat that could enable it to do more and better fulfil its core role to its membership?
 - What are the priorities for improving the SC strategic guidance and oversight of the Consortium? - Are there structural or process-related challenges that could lead to improved governance functions?

See copy of group notes here

(<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/knml8a41sxf7sjo/AABVMAFTADH98kPDzZsnfQA8a?dl=0> Notes from Strategy Discussion Group 4)

The Strategy review process going forward will be – Fred Nelson (in collaboration with the four group leads) to distil and synthesise the strategy work done during the GA into a short strategic report (due date – early 2017). **This will be reviewed by the new Steering Committee.**

Suggestion – incorporate a goal that by 2020, the IPLC and their supporters have managed to reach and surpass the Aichi Targets.

Approval of strategic priorities for 2017-2020 and Work plan & Budget for 2017

Motion to approve the strategic priorities for 2017-2020 and Work plan & Budget for 2017 as presented (with the option for the Steering Committee to make changes as necessary at their meeting 20 December 2016)– proposed by Taghi Farvar, seconded by Maurizio Ferrari (FPP) and Jorge Nahuel (Lof Newen Mapu). Approved by acclamation.

Thanks to the members of the 2014-2016 Steering Committee, proposed new and reconfirmed members and election of new Steering Committee 2016-2019

Stan Stevens and Ashish Kothari are both stepping down as members of the SC. They were thanked by the Assembly for all their work during their time in office.

Election of new Steering Committee, including President, Global Coordinator, Treasurer and other members with specific responsibilities. Nominees present at the meeting were requested to leave the room before discussion of their nomination and decisions on their election. Nominations were read out by the Programme Manager, including comments received in advance of the GA. Each nomination was discussed and then the nominee was elected or not by acclamation.

President – Taghi Farvar nominated

- Comment - Grazia and Taghi stepping down needs to be planned very carefully and should be at the top of the next SC meeting agenda.

No objections are raised. **Re-elected by acclamation for three years.**

Global Coordinator – Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend nominated

No objections are raised. **Re-elected by acclamation for three years.**

Treasurer & Member with special responsibility for Francophone Africa – Vololoniaina Rasoarimanana nominated

- Comment - deep and profound gratitude is expressed to our outgoing Treasurer, Stan Stevens.

No objections are raised. **Elected by acclamation for three years.**

Member with special responsibility for the ICCAs of indigenous peoples – Giovanni Reyes nominated

No objections are raised. **Re-elected by acclamation for three years.**

Member with special responsibility for the ICCAs of local communities – Dominique Bikaba nominated

No objections are raised. **Re-elected by acclamation for three years.**

Member with special responsibility for legal issues (collective rights & responsibilities, security of ICCA defenders, etc.) – José Aylwin nominated

No objections are raised. **Re-elected by acclamation for three years.**

Member with special responsibility for South Asia - Aman Singh nominated

No objections are raised. **Elected by acclamation for three years.**

Member with special responsibility for East and South East Asia – Dave de Vera and Thomas Jalong nominated

- Comment – we might want to have an elders’ council for the Consortium. Dave might be a good candidate for that as he has always been a strong supporter.

No objections are raised. **Thomas Jalong is elected by acclamation for three years, Dave de Vera will be suggested for the elders’ council.**

Member with special responsibility for Central and West Asia - Ghanimat Azhdari nominated

No objections are raised. **Elected by acclamation for three years.**

Member with special responsibility for Northern Europe and Russia – Aili Phyla nominated

No objections are raised. **Elected by acclamation for three years.**

Member with special responsibility for Southern Europe and the Mediterranean – Antonio Morabito nominated

No objections are raised. **Elected by acclamation for three years.**

Member with special responsibility for Anglophone Horn of Africa– Zelealem Tefera nominated

No objections are raised. **Elected by acclamation for three years.**

Member with special responsibility for Anglophone Africa – Patricia Mupeta nominated

No objections are raised. **Elected by acclamation for three years.**

Member with special responsibility for North America - Joe Martin nominated

No objections are raised. **Elected by acclamation for three years.**

Member with special responsibility for Mesoamerica and sacred sites - Felipe Gomez nominated

No objections are raised. **Re-elected by acclamation for three years.**

Member with special responsibility for gender - Vivienne Solis Rivera nominated

No objections are raised. **Re-elected by acclamation for three years.**

Member with special responsibility for South America – Raul Petsain and Jorge Nahuel nominated

No objections are raised to either nominee. **Raul Petsain re-elected by acclamation for three years as Member with special responsibility for Amazon region of South America.**

Jorge Nahuel re-elected by acclamation for three years as Member with special responsibility for Cono Sur region of South America.

Member with special responsibility for Oceania and the Pacific – Emma Lee

No objections are raised. **Elected by acclamation for three years.**

Position of Auditor of Accounts

Maurizio Ferrari stepped down as Auditor of Accounts. He was warmly thanked for his dedication and help. Stan Stevens was asked if he will accept the role of Auditor of Accounts and he did.

No objections are raised. **Stan Stevens elected by acclamation for the next 3 years as Auditor of Accounts.**

Round of comments and thanks from participants

Zealelem Tefera - In two years' time, COP 14 will be in Egypt. This is not currently represented in our Consortium.

Motion to approve the formation of a Council of Elders – proposed by Taghi Farvar, seconded by Fenosoa Andriamahenina (Tafo Mihaavo). Approved by acclamation.

Lorena Arce will coordinate the exchange of photographs from the General Assembly. **If you have any photos to share, please send them to Lorena.**

Two specific country-based problems were raised:

- **Rosario Barradas Cuqui** from Bolivia is having a judicial problem with the government. She requests that the General Assembly makes a statement.

- **Albert Chan Dzul** reports that a colleague from Mexico has asked if the General Assembly could make a statement on the situation that Mexico is confronting especially with Protected Areas.

Taghi explained the established procedure to follow. Please submit a concrete suggestion, in writing, on action to be taken by the Steering Committee for consideration at the first meeting of the new SC on 20 December 2016.

Carmen Miranda – requested an effective Communication Strategy to help in conflicts between destructive activities and ICCAs. Taghi moved that this item be deferred to the Steering Committee meeting 20 December 2016 - Approved.

The President thanked the ancestors, spirits and the Mayan owners of this place, he thanked Julian Lopez Canare and everyone else for supporting us including translation and note takers. Especial thanks went to Holly Jonas for her work right up to the very last moment at CBD COP 13.

20:00 - President closed the Xth General Assembly of the ICCA Consortium

