

# **XVth General Assembly of the ICCA Consortium - Association Consortium pour les Aires et Territoires du Patrimoine Autochtone et Communautaire (APAC)**

**2- 3 December 2019 – Udaipur, India**

## **Minutes day one: Monday 2 December 2019**

Members, Honorary members and observers sat by regional groupings

Decisions taken

To be noted by all

### **08:50 Welcome by President**

Following a spiritual ceremony led by Felipe Gomez and elders from several communities, the President formally welcomed everyone to the General Assembly and read the agenda.

**Motion to adopt the agenda: NTFP- EP, seconded Kalpavriksh**

### **President's report for 2019**

[Full version of Report available here](#)

Teddy Baguilat shared his personal vision for the Consortium. His aim is to inspire local efforts and this will be effective only if there is a successful regionalisation process. Many regional assemblies have already been held and this will encourage new Members to join us.

The Consortium needs to strengthen the capacities of Members to defend ICCAs-territories of life, a database of documentation on ICCAs-territories of life should be built up and we need to support work to harmonise the material and cultural benefits of ICCAs-territories of life.

**Consortium Members noted the President's report**

**Round call of participating Consortium Members and Honorary members and invited observers highlights of ICCAs-territories of life situation, work accomplished, perspectives and priorities**

**South Asia**

**Aman Singh** – some good things happening but we expect more to be done. Supreme Court declared community conserved areas should be part of forests. Many things delayed in the region for various reasons, but we are moving forwards. Had participation of India, Bangladesh, Nepal in RA.

**Neema Pathak Broome** – very rich discussions during assembly.

**Arjun Nag** – NTFP-EP India

**Madhu Ramnath** – coordinator of NTFP-EP India

**Jyotsna Krishnakumar** – Keystone Foundation – biosphere reserve and tribal communities work

**Lubna Qadri** – Kashmir – rural development women – trying to close down a firing range and working on conservation.

**Sheikh Ghulam Rasool** – school for rural development – works with Lubna – rural tourism, conservation-based livelihoods.

**Kamlendra Singh** – partner of NTFP-EP

**Pranab Doley** – Assam – Jhal peasant organisation

**Ashish Kothari** – Kalpavriksh based in Pune. Part of the start of Consortium

**Seema Bhatt** – also part of start of Consortium and part of Kalpavriksh

**Bangladesh** – two representatives from Himalaya grassroots women's empowerment and youth foundation.

**Kazi Nazrul Islam** – Bangladesh, Institute of Forestry and Rural Science – some community conserved areas in Bangladesh. Collaborative research project focusing on management strategies and biodiversity aspects.

**Nima Lama** - Nepal

**Jailab Rai** – Nepal, been working since inception of Consortium

**Gopimaya Gurung** - Kanpadra community Nepal

**Amit Dahit** – Nepal – youth environment and development Member of Consortium

**Sudeep Jana** - Forest Action – Nepal ICCA network – ICCAs-territories of life within protected areas system and without. Documenting and mapping across Nepal. Trying to create a federation but there are a number of legal complexities. New Constitution in Nepal which offers exciting opportunities.

### South-east Asia

**Femy Pinto** – NTFP-EP Philippines – regional hub for Consortium – second ICCA project just concluded. 17 ICCAs-territories of life documented and recognised – 150k hectares. Establishment of technical working group to support advocacy process and capacity building. ICCA national youth camp in a few weeks. Policy process in Philippines – bill submitted to congress and senate. Waiting for hearing in December. In 2019 organised regional exchanges on sustainable livelihoods, especially with Myanmar government.

**Kasmita Widodo** – WGII, Indonesia. Mapping and working for recognition – using existing legislation on customary territories. No specific legislation for ICCAs-territories of life.

**Paul Sein Twa** – KESAN working in Karen territories and president of Salween Peace Park. Government does not yet recognise ICCAs-territories of life but know they exist and are popular. Under jurisdiction of forest dept which is not ‘appropriate’ recognition. Difficult for indigenous peoples to push forward on ICCAs-territories of life but we are encouraging communities to do something. Salween self-declared.

**Ling Houg** – promotion of indigenous nature areas in Myanmar.

**Naw Eh tee Wah** – ICCA working group and youth group in Myanmar.

**Cristina Eghenter** – WWF Indonesia – member of WGII

**Delfin Ganapin** – WWF International – comes from Philippines, helped to get indigenous peoples rights act passed. Moved to GEF SGP, now with WWF working on governance practice. People protecting landscapes and seascapes – trying by 2025 to have at least 25 countries supporting ICCAs-territories of life and by 2030 many more. Aiming for ICCAs-territories of life to be not the exception but the rule of how conservation is done.

**Kelvin Gerald Lalo, Geran Jengan and Peter Kallang** – SAVE Rivers, Malaysia. New to ICCAs-territories of life, just registered this year. Working on degraded forest areas – biodiversity areas in Sarawak. Government has agreed that we can conserve this area. Government is building many mega dams – this is why we started the organisation to protest and block these initiatives. Include all stakeholders. Land matters is a state issue – land court is very busy, and we are working on these issues.

### West and Central Asia

**Bassima Khatib** – Society for Protection of Nature in Lebanon (part of BirdLife International). Introduced to Consortium by Cenesta. Aim to conserve biodiversity in Lebanon with people, and through them, using the Hima community conservation approach which exists throughout the region. Will be at WCC with a side event

**Ruben Khachatryan** – FPWC – host of Regional Assembly in Yerevan in June 2019. Promoting ICCAs-territories of life as it is at the heart of our ideology. The future of conservation is in the hands of local communities. Promote sustainable approaches to agriculture, tourism, etc. part of Ecovillage Network. Also have a motion for WCC on defenders against mining – many problems with British and Canadian companies. One community in Vardahovit who are working towards recognition and have succeeded in resisting a mining company.

**Aibek Samakov and Marc Foggin** – Kyrgyzstan – attended RA in Armenia, identified focal point in Kyrgyzstan - forest and land users. Some community conservation in Kyrgyzstan – several examples of desired ICCAs-territories of life. Much struggle of local communities against mining companies but some significant successes in pushing illegal operations back. Some local laws are being passed to protect against mining, but some mining companies are succeeding in areas that should be protected. No legal recognition of ICCAs-territories of life as a whole but there may be some protection under certain specific laws.

**Omid Ardeshirifar** – Iran Bahktary tribe from SW Iran. Nomadic pastoralists

**Ali Razamkhah** – Cenesta and Regional Coordinator. In last year we have worked to strengthen two networks – UNINOMAD AND UNICAMEL. Struggles against various legal issues. Also struggling under heavy sanctions from USA.

### East Asia

**Yingyi Zhang** – China is a complicated country with 1/5 of the global population (therefore largest indigenous peoples' population in the world but not known as indigenous peoples. 56+ ethnic groups). Many diverse and rich ecosystems. Have national land and collective land but no private land. It is not possible to buy and sell land. China working group on ICCAs-territories of life established a few years ago. Government reforming protected areas system so new laws are being passed and this is an opportunity for ICCAs-territories of life recognition and us.

**Sutej Hugu** - Tao Foundation and TICTU, Taiwan. Two approaches – legalising rights under colonial government or decolonising and self-declaration by communities. Some achievements and improvements to various laws on rights, traditional territories. Connectedness of species is kernel of indigenous peoples' movement in Taiwan – recognition of natural sovereignty. Struggle for collaborative commons. Indigenous knowledge, rights of nature, governance institutions.

**Beau Austin** – Australia. Consultant to various philanthropies. Involved in indigenous protected areas programme in Australia.

### Africa

**Christian Chatelain** – co-coordinator for Africa. Great progress has been made this year.

**Emmanuel Sulle** – Tanzania – coordinator for Eastern and Southern Africa. ICCAs-territories of life in Tanzania is a new concept. Did situational study to look for emblematic ICCAs-territories of life and a legal study to identify opportunities. UNDP GEF SGP have provided support to 13 organisations.

**Makko Sinandei** – Ujamaa pastoralists – secure territory for pastoralists and the community, build community capacities and networks. Government land, park areas and community land. Community are allowed to manage resources. Have secured an extensive area. President has publicly recognised pastoral land and the rights of communities to move around.

**Resiato Salyan Ngoitiko** – PWC – working to defend land, territories, livelihoods and rights of women.

**Cécé Noel Kpomougou** – Guinea. President of Reguiso – network of ICCAs-territories of life. 2016 activities began. In 2019 – process of identification of ICCAs-territories of life, support to ICCAs-territories of life, organisation of constitutive general assembly, recognition of ICCAs-territories of life. 32 ICCAs-territories of life recognised – 10 are emblematic. Documented and mapped all these. Supported by GEF SGP. Meetings spread information about ICCAs-territories of life. Held first national meeting and general assembly, communities and government representatives were present. Innovative because forest code has an article in environment law recognising ICCAs-territories of life. This encourages the recognition of ICCAs-territories of life. Want to create an ICCAs-territories of life code.

**Mihanta Bakoliarimisa** – Madagascar – Tafo Mihaavo – national network of local communities managing natural resources. Working on recognition advocacy. Legal review with collaboration of ministries – trying to update legal framework. Land tenure and community rights. Working with NJ and ILC. Participation in periodic review of human rights in Madagascar – recommended to government to defend fokonolona rights and governance of natural resources. Joint initiative with Mihari to set up a national registry of ICCAs-territories of life in Madagascar. 14 emblematic ICCAs-territories of life which have all implemented ssp.

**Vololoniaina Rasoarimanana** – supporting emergence of local communities in Tafo Mihaavo and the movement in Madagascar.

**Edward Mukiibi** – SlowFood in Africa, from Uganda.

**Pooven Moodley** – Natural Justice, work in 12 African countries. Working in Kenya for 10 years – won a case for fisherfolk last year. Won another case to stop a coal mine. In South Africa – east coast community fighting an Australian mining company – won the case to protect against mining without FPIC. Koi and San community have been trying to protect rooibos – now legal recognition of their traditional knowledge.

### Latin America

**Felipe Gomez** – Guatemala. In Latin America, we have progress. We had our Regional Assembly in October with the participation of Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama, Colombia, Chile, Paraguay and Brazil. We learnt to organise ourselves well at the country level. The future of the Consortium depends on having strong national networks. We also want to strengthen the sub regions to be able to strengthen the Consortium at the global level. We are also working to ensure that the indigenous & local communities themselves take decisions and use their voice. It is important for us that the Consortium at the global level also takes this direction. The NGOs and other organisations will have to support and accompany. We also have to adopt appropriate policies on themes that we develop on the global level as a Consortium: gender policy, youth participation, policy on territories of life defenders. After our Assembly, we presented our declaration in the CAPLAC and we succeeded in positioning the Consortium.

**Lucas Quintupuray** - We made important steps during our Assembly and the CAPLAC. We know that a lot depends on us; we try to bring agreed policies to the grassroots level. The ICCAs-territories of life concept helped us a lot. It encouraged the original peoples to become part of this system to unite. In order to learn from our companions and decolonise all the current systems.

**Thomas Moore** - We had a workshop in 2018 in Pachacamac [Peru] with representatives from 18 indigenous peoples. It was been the beginning of the process in Peru, even if there were indigenous organisations already affiliated to the Consortium, like Coshikox and the Wampis. We still have a long way to walk; we could not meet again during this year, after the first meeting that was supported by the SGP of the UNDP. This year, we participated in the Regional Assembly and the CAPLAC. Now we have a catalytic organisation in Peru, which is called Servindi and which is a communication network. It gives us a lot of hope. FENAMAD and AIDSESEP are participating. FENAMAD has a lot of work to promote the organisation of indigenous peoples. There is still a lot to do, but we want this to be consolidated. AIDSESEP has been progressively reorganised aligning itself with indigenous peoples' territories and not with political considerations. In working with indigenous peoples and ICCAs-territories of life we cannot limit ourselves within national borders because a lot of indigenous peoples are present in more than one country. We need to integrate work at the regional and sub-regional levels.

**Julio Cusurichi** - President of FENAMAD. We are part of the ICCAs-territories of life family and of the IUCN since 2017. I want to thank Grazia, Carmen and all of you who are present. FENAMAD work at the grassroots level, in the territories of the "reservas comunales" (common reserves). We also work with peoples who do not have contact with the rest of society. At the national level, it is complicated, and we have worked to resolve some misunderstandings. In Peru, there is Wrays Perez, who is part of ICCA Consortium governance and a representative of the Wampis people. There is AIDSESEP, FENAMAD, many organisations that do not want to meet together sometimes. It has been crucial to meet because if we do not unite, they divide us. It has been important to prepare the CAPLAC. It is also important to say that as FENAMAD, we supported the organisation of these gatherings to make possible the participation of leaders from many peoples. On the global level, as FENAMAD, we have been in a Congress just before, where we expressed that we belong to the ICCA Consortium, so the ICCAs-territories of life can be more visible. We also participated in a CBD forum in Paraguay where we positioned the ICCAs-territories of life.

**Daniel Rodriguez Fernandez** - In the Amazon, the uncontacted peoples have 55 million hectares of lands. Their territories are threatened. Putting this on the table seems important to me because we need to consider the actors that are invisible in conservation.

**Carmen Miranda:** Regional Coordinator for the Amazon basin. In the South Cone, our leader is a colleague that you know, Lorena Arce. We try to impulse an articulated process between sub-regions. We took the opportunity of the Parks Congress to be present as ICCAs-territories of life. This has been really important for the strengthening of our network. We are supporting indigenous peoples that work with ICCAs-territories of life. We are growing in number, and we also have a large number of Honorary members. I believe that our regional meeting was really important to project this joint construction. In the Amazon region, ICCA networks are consolidating themselves in four countries: Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Brazil. Among the countries of the Amazon, the only one that is missing is Venezuela, where it is really complicated.

**Paola Maldonado Tobar** – I represent ALDEA, Ecuador, a Consortium Member since 2017. It has changed our life. It has been really important for us to find a proposal that fits with the work that we realise at the local level. Since 2017, we are in the process of community mapping, in the context of registering ICCAs-territories of life in Ecuador. We continued throughout 2018, as part of the UNDP SGP programme. The three highlights of the year:

1. A meeting that gathered six organisations of indigenous peoples at the country level, to talk about the Registry, adapt the community consultation process to their cultural reality;
2. There are also three registered territories (in the WCMC): Agua Blanca, Playa de Oro and the Shuar territory;
3. Exchanges between the Wampis Nation and the Shuar Arutam People who are the same people, from a single territory, split by national borders.

It has also been a priority in the work in Ecuador to work on the theme of uncontacted peoples, among whom two are in danger of ethnocide; there have been massacres which have mainly affected women and children.

**Albert Chan Dzul** - I am from Mexico, I am Maya, and I represent U Yich Lu'um ("the fruits of the Earth" in Mayan). In Mexico, we have generated a network of autonomous territories. We have been slow, until having the financing from the SGP. Mexico is large and we need time. Among our plans for the future, we want to organise a meeting of organisations and communities that already know what the concept of ICCAs-territories of life is. We also plan to directly support emblematic ICCAs-territories of life. And finally I also ask the support of other Members from other countries that know organisations in Mexico, so that they speak to them about our work, because sometimes, these organisations are wary and do not trust others. We can understand this because of previous experiences of betrayal that they have experienced.

### **North America**

**Curtis Rattray** – Tahltan Nation. Indigenous group in north west Canada. Aim to develop aboriginal youth into leaders. Also, community led monitoring of water and plants. Documenting Tahltan knowledge. Making connections within Canada and internationally.

**Colin Scott** – regional meeting held in May in conjunction with Cicada and back to back with North American Dialogue on Biocultural Diversity (produced a declaration led by first nation participants and a policy document). Regionalisation process in North America is very much a work in progress. There is still an empty Council seat for the region, but we are trying to grow the number of Members.

### **Europe**

**Marco Bassi** – University of Palermo, Hm of Consortium and member of Council for South Europe. In Italy, looking to see how we can make best use of law passed to recognise the Italian Commons (ICCAs-territories of life correspond to Commons). High environmental value. Natura 2000 doesn't acknowledge communities.

**Antoine Scherer** – representing Snowchange. Arctic and boreal zones. Discussing with officials, restoration work, next year will have big events in Siberia and Alaska. Passed on best regards from Tero Mustonen to the General Assembly.

**Aili Pyhälä** – Hm, Chair of Membership Committee. Truth and reconciliation process happening in Finland – criticised by the Sami as a way of government washing their hands of responsibility.



**Terence Hay-Edie** – UNDP GEF SGP. Manages global ICCA support initiative (GSI). Next year will be very important for nature. SGP has been going for 25 years but we need the support of CSOs.

**Emma Courtine** – Hm, working on preparations for WCC and looking for ICCAs-territories of life in France – have mainland France and overseas territories (with indigenous peoples and community conservation). In mainland France, looking at Commons but progress is slow.

**Sergio Couto** – Spain, Regional Coordinator for Europe for Consortium and a founder of Iniciativa Comunales – communities managing territory in a communal way. Wide range of communities are represented and are members of Iniciativa Comunales. Long history on ICCAs-territories of life /Commons – recognised in law and in customary manner. Some communities are very strong and active but there has been some loss of activity. Working to reinvigorate this by working on community recognition of their rights. ICCA Registry – Spain has advanced process for registration and peer-support and peer-review. Helping colleagues from other countries to support communities and make national networks. Working with ILC on platform on Commons in Europe, North Africa, Middle East and Eastern Europe.

**Grazia Borrini- Feyerabend** – Global Coordinator

**Holly Jonas** – International Policy Coordinator

**Gaëlle Le Gauyer** – Administration Assistant

**Sarah Ryder** – Programme Manager

**Eleonora Fanari** - translator

**Elly Oenema** – trained nurse, working on Adivasi health

**Colleen Corrigan** – technical advisory group of the ICCA Registry

## Report on implementation of Strategy and 2019 Work Programme (Global and Regional Coordinators)

[Copy of full presentation available here](#)

1. Highlights of 2019 –
  - a. supporting activities and meetings of Members – **Myanmar** (indigenous peoples met to understand ICCAs-territories of life and build capacity in communities), **Guatemala**, **Burkina Faso** (54,259 ICCAs-territories of life in Burkina Faso, 1406 have been documented and 10 have received in-depth technical support), **Italy**, **Malaysia**, **Uganda**, **Taiwan** (campaign against large solar power farm in a territory and key bird area), **Guinea** (lots of field visits, movement of ICCAs-territories of life in Guinea shows what is possible in difficult places), **Colombia** (first country in Latin America to declare an ICCA-territory of life, there is a focal point for the Consortium leading an ICCA Consortium there), **Canada**, **Bolivia**, **Brazil**, **Iran**, **Philippines** (expanded protected areas law has recently been passed recognising that in protected areas with indigenous peoples, the governance of the pa must be recognised – there are some problems with implementation. Added ‘sustainable traditional use rights’ terminology. Sustainable livelihood exchange with participants from at least five countries in the region), **Madagascar**, **Spain** (began five years ago to identify and recognise ICCAs-territories of life in Spain, now have annual seminar and provide ongoing peer-support and peer-review), **Senegal** (first meeting of communities in one of the five sub regions, building networks, a big step towards a national network), **Mexico** (CAPLAC took place), **Ecuador**



Promoting the appropriate recognition of, and support to, the territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs) [www.iccaconsortium.org](http://www.iccaconsortium.org)

(Sarayaku are in the process of recognising their ICCAs-territories of life – doing this without any funding), first general assembly of ICCAs-territories of life in **Congo Kinshasa** and first meeting on ICCAs-territories of life in **Congo Brazzaville**, First World Forum on Nature Conservation in **China**.

- b. Regional Events in Europe, North America, West & Central Asia and the Caucasus, Latin America and South Asia – for planning and imagining a decentralised Consortium
- c. Planning for State and Future of ICCAs-territories of life Report – to be presented to CBD. Four sections of the Report:
  - i. 18 case examples of emblematic ICCAs-territories of life
  - ii. Extrapolation of the values of the examples to the scale of the planet
  - iii. Recommendations for policies to realise those values
  - iv. Manifesto for securing sustainable self-determination in ICCAs-territories of life
- d. International Policy Work
  - COP 14 in Egypt
  - International Declaration on the Rights of Peasants
  - GEF Council meetings and CSO consultations
  - UNPFII 2019
  - IPBES Global Assessment
  - Contributions to CBD regional gatherings focusing on CBD post 2020 framework
  - Side event and contributions at CBD 8J and SBSTTA
- e. ICCA Alerts – Chile, Brazil, Montenegro and Myanmar
- f. Publications
  - i. Forest and Pasture commons in Romania
  - ii. PB 6 Nourishing Life – ICCAs-territories of life and food sovereignty
  - iii. PB 7 Meanings and more...
  - iv. ICCAs-territories of life in Portugal
  - v. ICCAs-territories of life in Turkey
  - vi. ICCAs-territories of life in West & Central Asia
  - vii. Self-strengthening ICCAs-territories of life guidance document
  - viii. Recognising ICCAs Overlapped by Protected Areas
  - ix. Governance Vitality
  - x. Film on ICCAs-territories of life and the Consortium
  - xi. Newsflash – produced monthly

**Consortium Members noted the Programme report - proposed by Iniciativa Comunales**

## Report on Gender Policy (Programme and Communication Officer)

[Copy of full presentation available here](#)

There is a page on the Consortium website with full details of the Gender Policy and gender issues.

A Committee on Gender is emerging, to gather gender-related information, promote and act as guardian of gender equality and security. More information concerning the policy needs to be presented to Consortium Members. This Committee will be an ad-hoc committee so it can be made up of anyone interested in the topic.

### Key discussion points:

- There are many people with differing views about this.
- Some of the Regional Assemblies have discussed this issue and their contributions should be incorporated into the Policy.
- Women can be very powerful in debates around land rights and natural resources.
- Women can have more determination to care for territories than men.
- In Nepal, work is happening to include women and especially marginalised women in decision-making.
- The subject of women and gender is huge; we need to debate this fully and should not rush.
- Gender issues should be included in all policy work.

Anyone interested in being involved with the Gender Committee should contact Emma Courtine ([emma@iccaconsortium.org](mailto:emma@iccaconsortium.org)).

## Report on Communications (Programme and Communication Officer)

[Copy of full presentation available here](#)

Current means of communication:

- Newsflash – please share any articles for the Newsflash with Gaëlle Le Gauyer ([gaelle@iccaconsortium.org](mailto:gaelle@iccaconsortium.org))
- Mailing list
- Facebook page
- Twitter account
- Videos and publications
- Regional and thematic mailing lists
- YouTube
- WhatsApp groups
- 2 Consortium videos – released in May and watched more than 9,000 times on YouTube.
- Policy Briefs and other publications

A Communication Assessment is being conducted, to map communication strengths within the Consortium and within our partners. **Please contact Emma Courtine ([emma@iccaconsortium.org](mailto:emma@iccaconsortium.org)) if you would like to be involved.**

Volunteered:

Teddy Baguilat

Pooven Moodley (Natural Justice communication person will help)

Antoine Scherer

Eleonora Fanari

Carmen Comadran from Spain

possibly Servindi

### Fundraising activity 2019 report (Programme Manager)

[Copy of full presentation available here](#)

Fundraising is teamwork and involves many people. The approach is in line with the Strategic Plan.

#### Key Issues to consider:

- What does “aligned funders” mean for the Consortium?
- How to go about fundraising in the context of the regionalisation process.
- Evolution of Emerge Process.

#### Ongoing funding from previous years:

- SwedBio
- Anonymous donor
- The Christensen Fund
- UNDP GEF SGP Global Support Initiative for ICCAs

#### Successful proposals 2019:

- Tikva Grassroots Empowerment Fund of Tides Foundation
- SwedBio
- The Christensen Fund
- Anonymous donor
- WWF International Inclusive Conservation
- Conservation through Reconciliation Partnership (Consortium as partner)

#### Proposals Outstanding/In Progress:

- Oak Foundation
- Wyss Foundation's Campaign for Nature
- MacArthur Foundation
- Voice
- Commonwealth Foundation

**Future possibilities:**

- GSI Phase II
- Large scale funding around inclusive Conservation
- Oceans 5
- National Geographic Society
- Environmental Defenders Collaborative
- International Funders for Indigenous Peoples
- and a range of other funders, both for core and programmatic costs

**Consortium funding trajectory (USD):**

|      |                                    |
|------|------------------------------------|
| 2015 | 140,000                            |
| 2016 | 286,000                            |
| 2017 | 225,000                            |
| 2018 | 300,000                            |
| 2019 | 360,000                            |
| 2020 | 600,000+ (220,000 already secured) |

**Key discussion points:**

- Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation has been approached but they are restructuring. Will reconnect with them in the future.
- The Consortium has always done lots with little money. Members must decide what they want in terms of fund-raising. Large organisations become very motivated by fund-raising needs. Changes the character of the organisation; moving from purpose of 'Conservation of nature' to 'Conservation of self'.
- Need to acknowledge demands for expertise, connections, contributions are increasing, and fast. Do we drive the show, or respond to donor demands?
- We should prioritise need for core funding as it is hard to find this, and a few individuals often end up working very hard. Core key staff need to be paid, that's what will make a healthy Consortium.
- Should keep volunteer contributions alive, there should be a combination of volunteerism and a professional profile. We need to do what is needed to attain quality professional outputs.
- Members may feel that they are competing with the centre. Need to remain clear how the Consortium adds value to its Members.

- All depends on what we generate funds for in terms of centre vs regions.
- We need to advance campaigns and bring the influence of the Consortium at global level.
- We also need to create possibilities for local communities to contribute to conservation through involvement in campaigns.
- Important to enable exchange of ideas between groups, e.g. across regions, in order to better protect our land.
- We need more support at the level of local communities.
- Consortium should support and build the capacities of Member organisations.
- Regionalisation process is a priority and should be considered as part of 'core costs'. Need to ensure adequate participation from regions in all aspects of process.
- Fundraising has to be done in a comprehensive way (this takes a lot of time and technical support); linked to capacity building, to communications, to advocacy. Funding for core of Secretariat requires also that core capacity (staff) grows.
- Need to strengthen and enable the capacity of local Members to fundraise, many donors also now are focusing on funding regional or national projects, rather than global.
- Unless ICCA Consortium is well known, funders won't support, therefore communications is very important.
- We identify our funders through various means; including networks, personal connections and searching online. But we must ensure that we raise funding from partners/donors that genuinely align with us. Must not end up overly/primarily following donor priorities; need funders that allow us to follow priorities of the Members. We want to focus funding on regionalisation process. And in post-2020 (upcoming) environment.

**Consortium Members noted the Gender report, the Communications report and the Fundraising report – proposed by Natural Justice**

**Final Treasurer's Report for 2018 and Preliminary Treasurer's Report for 2019 (Treasurer); Reading of the Report of Prof. Stan Stevens, Auditor of the Accounts. Feedback and observations/ discussion (President)**

The Treasurer presented the full year Accounts and Report for 2018, and the Interim Accounts and Report for 2019. The accounts were presented in US\$ and are based on the values of transparency and accountability. Currently, the Consortium has reserves of unrestricted funds of around US\$140,000.

**Consortium Members approved by consensus the Treasurer's Report for 2018 and preliminary Treasurer's Report for 2019 - proposed Kalpavriksh, seconded KESAN**

President read the Report of the Auditor of Accounts.

**Consortium Members noted Report of the Auditor of the Accounts**

**Membership Report and key issues currently dealt with by the Membership Committee— (Chair of Membership Committee)**

[Copy of full presentation available here](#)

Membership Committee is made up of – Aili Pyhälä, Vivienne Solis Rivera, Giovanni Reyes, Dominique Bikaba, Ghanimat Azhdari, Zelealem Tefera and Emma Courtine.

- Members – 154 (15 new Members this year)
- Honorary members – 373 (65 new Honorary members this year)
- Breakdown given of membership by region, organisation type, gender - this year saw a growth in iplc Members and Honorary members. We are still encouraging more nominations of women and indigenous/local community Honorary members.
- New in 2019:
  - We have a new membership form.
  - We now share details of the nominees of Honorary members
  - Now have an online membership folder avail to Secretariat
  - Step by step process explained on website
  - Striving to increase connection and sense of belonging of Members and Honorary members.
- Membership review and platform development has not been finalised due to technical issues, it will help identify needs, strengths and commonalities.
- Membership welcome package, including a video, is planned to make a more human connection and answer frequently asked questions.
- Increasing importance and responsibilities of Regional Coordinators/Hubs
- Membership fees – in cash or in-kind. Happy to accept diversity of reporting formats for in-kind payments (videos, recorded narrative, photo story, WhatsApp, etc). Examples of in-kind payments given:
  - Supporting a community to document information on its ICCA-territory of life
  - Producing an article or document
  - Supporting specific work on policy at the national or international level
  - Self-funding participation in a meeting as a representative of the Consortium and providing a report
  - Organising or logistically supporting an ICCA-territory of life event
  - Volunteer engagement as Chair of a Consortium Committee or member of the ExCo.

Termination of membership – explained thoroughly in Operational Guidelines. Currently the Membership Committee is proposing that 7 Members be suspended as per Article 5 in Statutes and 2.6.2 in Operational Guidelines:

- Asociacion Amazonicos por la Amazonia – AMPA
- Community Forests International
- ENDA ENERGIE
- KENWEB
- Maldhari Rural Action Group MARAG
- Samvardhan
- WAMIP – World Alliance of Mobile Indigenous Peoples

The Members present at the General Assembly presented no objections to suspending these Members. These Members will be informed of the decision.

Membership Committee restructuring – Aili stepping down as Chair at this GA (as Council is being restructured), Emma maybe moving on soon, so we are looking for more people who are interested in being involved.

**Key discussion points:**

- A review of the Honorary members is planned for next year. It could be interesting to have a profile of Honorary members and their capacities/interests.
- Members must advise the Consortium of activities that could be considered as an in-kind payment. Once a year, we send reminders of fees and this is the moment to report the in-kind payments.
- Honorary members don't have voting rights.

**Consortium Members noted the Membership Report – proposed by KESAN**

**Report from Search committee focusing on process and results of hiring new Global Coordinator and Technical Coordinators (Global Coordinator)**

Consortium started as a bootstrapped organisation, and governance and management were conflated by necessity. Some people undertook a lot of work and responsibility. As a result of this too many tasks were in the hands of too few people. At the establishment of the Consortium it was put in the Statutes that the governance leaders could only serve a maximum of three terms of three years. The Strategy review clearly recommended that there be a separation of governance and Secretariat responsibilities.

In 2017, the President and Global Coordinator called for the formation of a Search Committee to oversee the transition from the founding leaders of the Consortium (Taghi and Grazia). This is an ad-hoc committee and includes Terence Hay-Edie (UNDP GEF SGP), Trevor Sandwith (IUCN GPAP), Maurizio Farhan Ferrari (FPP), Tina Rai (GFC), Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend (ICCA Consortium) and Taghi Farvar (ICCA Consortium). It is chaired by Ghanimat Azhdari and Fred Nelson. The Search Committee was formed in January 2018 and has met many times and frequently to work out the best way forward and define the needs of the Consortium and the various possible ways of satisfying these needs. The untimely passing of Taghi forced the process forwards more quickly than planned. The Search Committee worked hard to help the process – Dave de Vera stepped in as interim President until the election of Teddy Baguilat in Ethiopia in 2018.

Next step was to find a replacement for Grazia as Global Coordinator. Started with an assessment of what Grazia actually does. Separated out the governance role of Secretary of Council. ToR drawn up and a nomination will be put to the GA tomorrow.

The Secretariat role of Global Coordination was split into Global Coordinator and Technical Coordinator, these roles are not to be elected but to be appointed. For the Global Coordinator position, ToR were drafted and we received 13 applications – reviewed by all the Committee and the decision taken to conduct interviews with 2 people – SC were unanimous in their choice of the best candidate – Holly



Jonas. Next step was to advertise for position of Technical Coordinator – 31 applications were received and reviewed, followed by written tests and a short list was narrowed down to 2 candidates for interview. Holly Jonas played a part in this process and the interviews. The decision was taken to split the Technical Coordinator role into two: Research and publications; and Regionalisation & Policy advocacy. All three will share a number of roles and work very closely together. They will support the Co-Chairs of the three themes of work of the Consortium and will remain open to hearing from Members, Hm, Secretariat members and Council members.

**Holly Jonas (incoming Global Coordinator)**

I'd like to thank the Search Committee for their work, and the Council and ExCo for their support in the leadership transition process.

I especially want to thank Grazia for the years/decades of your life that you have put into this work and organisation. The many seeds you have planted are taking root around the world. This is your baby and truly no one can replace you.

Stepping into this new role is a huge responsibility that I do not take lightly. Thank you for your trust. I know we will be able to move forward because of the strength of the membership and the Secretariat. This is not just an organisation; it is a family and I know that we will make it through this transition process, if anything, getting even stronger.

It is no secret that we are facing interconnected crises – climate, ecological, humanitarian - in the world today and they are the direct results of certain worldviews and economies that inherently create injustice and inequalities, and we need to change them. We need to focus on the core values that are the essence of humanity – respect, reciprocity, humility, integrity, solidarity, love. These were reflected in the beautiful opening ceremony led by Indigenous leaders this morning. These values are part of Indigenous peoples' worldviews and I fundamentally believe that listening to and respecting this wisdom is truly what is needed to heal our relationships with each other and with Mother Earth.

The most important part of my work will not be about how much funding we secure or how many meetings we hold. It's about ensuring the Consortium remains true to these core values, is guided by the wisdom of our Members (especially Indigenous peoples and communities), honours the legacy and spirit of our founders, and backs as strongly as possible the work of our Members to rise up and show the rest of the world other paths. This is my commitment; please hold me to it.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to support you, the Members, and to work with our amazing team in this new role. This movement is on the right side of history. Thank you again.

**Thomas Niederberger (incoming Technical Coordinator - Research and publications)**

Based in Switzerland and an Honorary member since 2017. Has worked extensively with the Wampis Nation and has great experience in academia and activism. Started working with the UN on drafting the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2001 and this has led him to the Consortium today. Has worked on many activist initiatives, including responding to a mining initiative in Argentina led by a Swiss company. Returned to Switzerland and launched a successful support campaign. Thomas believes

his skill lies as a facilitator to help Consortium Members, Secretariat and Council to work and build strength and capacity.

**Amejali Ramos Castillo (incoming Technical Coordinator - Regionalisation & Policy advocacy)**

Honorary member of Consortium and Indigenous person from Chiapas in Mexico. Works with Albert Chan Dzul and advocates for Indigenous people's rights in policy spaces.

Recently joined ICCA Consortium as one of the Technical Coordinators, together with Thomas Niederberger. Very excited about opportunity to work with everyone and learn about the work that is being done on the ground and to support this in whatever way necessary. Specifically, will be working with Holly and Thomas on the Regionalisation process and is very keen to hear views and opinions on how the membership and Secretariat can be supported through this process. you think I can support you.

From southern Mexico, grew up in Chiapas and the United States of America. Currently living in southern Mexico, in the highlands doing agroecology work and working with the local community. Has been working with Indigenous people's communities for past 20 years on policy issues and also on the ground.

**Consortium Members noted the Search Committee Report – proposed by Plateau Perspectives**

**19:00 President closed the meeting for the day**

## Minutes day two: Tuesday 3 December 2019

08:50 Welcome by the President, revision and adoption of Agenda, as necessary

Motion to adopt the agenda: TICTU, seconded Kalpavriksh

A vision for the Consortium in the next decade (Global Coordinator and Ashish Kothari)

### Visioning exercise, ICCA Consortium, for next ten years

*What is the best we can dream for ICCAs-territories of life? What do we hope to achieve in the next ten years in the context that we know? Personal reflection to generate a maximum of three 3 visions for each of:*

1. ourselves as the ICCA Consortium
2. territories of life in general

Ideas were clustered into various themes:

- External engagement
  - Policy support and recognition
  - Collaboration with other orgs
  - Structure and international processes e.g. regionalisation
- Internal collaboration
  - Functioning of Consortium, flows of information
  - Leadership, development, transition
- Sustainability
- Documentation
- Solidarity
- Self-recognition
- Empowerment and Rights
- Livelihoods
- Youth, gender, engagement
- Governance
- Wider society

Colleen Corrigan will pull together all the suggestions and create a succinct report.

Thematic areas of work of the Consortium (Theme Co-Chairs)

Themes are an opportunity to harness and group the work of the Members, they are not Committees, separate from the work, they are fundamental. The two co-chairs of each Theme are members of

Council and there is a member of the Secretariat who focuses on each theme. Presentations in preparation of workshops on Wednesday 4 December.

### **1. Defending ICCAs-territories of life – Pooven Moodley**

[Copy of full presentation available here](#)

Started by Felipe lighting a candle to remember the defenders who have passed on, been harmed, been threatened for their work and beliefs. The torch of the struggle has to be passed on to next generations. People are standing up and resisting. Many reports highlight the catastrophic threat to the world of climate change. There are existential threats to ICCAs-territories of life and their custodians. The Consortium has a responsibility to stand up to systemic issues and support Members beyond its Policy on Defenders.

#### **Action plan:**

- Secure and monitor compliance with existing rights in specific situations
- Advance global systems of rights and responsibilities
- Build the ICCA Consortium's institutional basis and capacities

#### **Looking ahead:**

- Members' survey
- Defenders fund
- Proactive support
- Regional organising of defenders' work
- Part of global networks and coalitions
- Join the committee to contribute
- Attend the session on defenders tomorrow

#### **Key discussion points:**

- As a network, SE Asia are yet to coalesce around this, but it is a very prevalent issue for communities, journalists, NGO workers. GW report says the Philippines is the deadliest country currently for defenders.
- In Guatemala there is a movement to defend land and the environment. Also, a movement to recover common land. We work to include the concept of ICCAs-territories of life in this space. However, there are legal restrictions - UN Agreement 169 goes beyond the Constitution of Guatemala but communities are not recognised. We propose to establish spaces for dialogue with the State even though we know this is often not useful. We want to establish the importance of these territories.

### **2. Documenting ICCAs-territories of life – Paola Maldonado**

[Copy of full presentation available here](#)

Film report on meeting between Shuar people and Wampis Nation. It is fundamental that we well define the answers to various questions: what do we want to document? For what purpose? For whom? How do we want to do it?

### Key discussion points:

- In Ecuador, we already documented eight territories of life, but we need to know what the status of this work is in other countries.
- We need to define how to store this information, and how we articulate this information with the information managed by WCMC and LandMark.
- We want to work together to gather ideas on how we can give visibility to territories of life.
- Have to show the international community that ICCAs-territories of life are effective at conserving the environment if you want to be effective.
- Planning a platform database on Commons/ ICCAs-territories of life in Europe, supported by ILC. This could become a global database.

### 3. Sustaining ICCAs-territories of life – Aili Pyhälä, Albert Chan and Colin Scott

How can livelihoods contribute to the vitality of ICCAs-territories of life? How can the Consortium support Member custodians to achieve and maintain sustainable livelihoods? How can we demonstrate to policy makers and others how important ICCAs-territories of life are to food, health, wellbeing, climate change mitigation?

Do not have biodiversity or sustainability if we do not have sustain livelihoods. If ICCAs-territories of life are not viable then they cannot continue and will not be able to resist interventions by extractive and destructive industries.

Began discussing this theme in June 2019. Since then there have been workshops in Latin America and SE Asia. Funding proposal submitted to MacArthur is designed to support this theme.

Albert - To begin, we have to understand how we work in the areas that serve us to reproduce life not only on a material level but also on a spiritual level. How we recover the traditions, the language. To fully recover our territories, we need to be proud of who we are. We also need to understand the internal processes that have caused us to lose everything mentioned above. What are the issues, external threats, which make us fear this internal weakening? We also think it is important to involve children and young people who are the heirs and we want to sensitise them from an early age

Colin – experience with partners in many world regions – there is a lot of research that shows that livelihood activities are not only compatible with biodiversity but are actually vital for biodiversity. Trans-generational transmission of knowledge is vital to maintain this. There is a decline in prestige for a lot of young people considering hunting, pastoralists, farming. It can have a negative impact in many areas of their life (marriageability, employment, poverty).

## Proposed outline of 2020 Work Programme and Budget (Global and Regional Coordinators and International Policy Coordinator)

[Copy of full presentation available here](#)

### Strategic Directions for 2020

- Supporting community processes of self-identification and self-strengthening
- Theme on documenting ICCAs-territories of life
- Theme on sustaining ICCAs-territories of life
- Supporting national networks and building a critical mass for advocacy and legal reform
- Supporting connections, peer learning, solidarity and action across regions and movements
- Theme on defending ICCAs-territories of life
- Global initiative on marine, coastal and island ICCAs-territories of life
- Influencing global discourse - mobilising researchers, artists, communicators and activists
- Advocating for appropriate international recognition

### Strengthening the ICCA Consortium in 2020

- Fully backing regionalisation process
- Strengthening the Council and Executive Committee
- Intentionally strengthening the membership and equitable partnerships
- Nurturing and supporting the team (family!) in the transition and next phase of the Consortium
- Working with aligned funders and collaborators

### Indicative budget

- Confirmed funding US\$ 212,500
- Nearly confirmed US\$ 385,000
- Still pursuing US\$ 200,00++

### What is covered?

- Minimum core support for Secretariat, technical support, comms and IT
- Emblematic case studies and State & Future of ICCAs report
- Support for self-strengthening processes and national networks and advocacy in 10 countries
- Mobile version of self-strengthening guidance
- Travel – GA and Council meeting, participation in international fora for post-2020 process
- Sub-granting to Consortium Members
- Possible support for defenders in Africa
- Possible support for coordination and regional work in Europe
- Admin and financial services

### What is still needed?

- Support for Regional Assemblies and Regional Hubs

- Support for self-strengthening processes and national networking in more countries
- Support for thematic areas of work
- Focused communications and outreach support

### Key discussion points:

Grand Houroum grant of US\$10,000 was secured by Taghi over five years ago for work with migratory, mobile indigenous peoples. For security reasons in the region, it is impossible to do this work. At the same time First People Worldwide (the donor) have ceased to exist. The money has now been reassigned to work with UNINOMAD and UNICAMEL in Iran, in honour of Taghi.

The Consortium is keen to undertake co-funding ventures with Members.

Linking local, national, regional and international work. They should never be separate from one another. Want to ensure that people we support to attend international policy events are very closely connected to the grassroots.

Terence - SGP can help – could convene dialogues around the world (20 or 30 countries) prior to the COP in China – we have funding of US\$ 500,000 to support this. Please approach Terence to suggest countries where this may be useful and appropriate. This could also be linked to the State & Future of ICCAs Report.

**2020 Work Programme and Budget approved by consensus – motion Natural Justice, seconded Cenesta.**

### Regionalisation process for the ICCA Consortium (Programme and Communication Officer)

[Copy of full presentation available here](#)

Very important process for the following/upcoming years, based on the Strategy.

This past year we have had five Regional Assemblies:

- 1. First Regional Assembly in Europe (Sergio Couto)** - several challenges. Degree of involvement from each country. Also, some other member organisations involved, e.g. ILC. Now, about to finalise a project with ILC for the next two years to develop a platform of ICCAs-territories of life examples from Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. The project includes funds for a full-time coordinator. Wishing now to confer with other Regional Coordinators to know more/better how to organise work, improve effectiveness. In early stages of collaboration with range of partners.
- 2. First Regional Assembly in North America (Holly Jonas)** - held back-to-back with other events, in connection with Cicada. Membership is very small, mostly Honorary members, few full Members – growing membership therefore is a priority. Two main parts of the region: Circumpolar (Alaska and Northern Canada) and everywhere else. Want to encourage groups to self-declare themselves as ICCAs-territories of life; this has fairly high government support/backing in Canada. Could have better support elsewhere, i.e. USA.



3. **First Regional Assembly in West & Central Asia and the Caucasus (Ali Razmkhah)** – attended by 17 Members from eight countries in the region. Four Honorary members, plus Grazia. Discussed whether/how to increase ICCA Consortium membership. Elected Aibek Samakov as member of global ICCA Consortium Council, for our region. Vast region, many countries, diverse ethnic and linguistic groups – so quite hard to make connections across full region. Aim to be the best region in the Consortium!
4. **Second Regional Assembly in Latin America** – in October the Consortium held a second Regional Assembly lasting six days, in parallel to the Third Regional Congress of PAs in Latin America and Caribbean – held in Lima, Peru. Intense work defined the most important topics to discuss with other regional indigenous organisations, especially COICA. Following this, there was a training course with Servindi, to design a draft strategy for communications for the region. Decided to follow the declaration of the TICCA network developed at the Congress, much emphasis on the importance of ICCAs-territories of life as contributions at regional level to the health and conservation of biodiversity. Also evaluated the work related to ICCAs-territories of life and sub-regional meetings; from Mesoamerica, Amazon countries, and southern South America. Finally, discussed and prepared some proposals for COP 25, and activities related to WCC 2020. Grateful for the support of GSI. Had the active participation of IPs from Peru, including the Wampis and Fenamad.
5. **First Regional Assembly in South Asia (Neema Pathak Broome)** - Three countries attended with 60 participants from 40 groups, including NGOs and local communities, with many women and youth. Discussed livelihoods, strengthening governance, regeneration and conservation, perspectives from youth and women. Members shared what they are already doing. Discussed whether a regional network is needed and decided that overall, yes, it is needed. But most important is thinking how it should operate and who should be involved; in particular, connecting other already-existing local networks. First need to strengthen at sub-regional level. Divided the region by ecosystems; mountains, wetlands, drylands etc. Also identified coordinators to connect with local ICCAs-territories of life and others involved in these themes – to return and build body of membership and support, create own smaller networks; and then bring together a more formal, larger network.
6. **First Regional Assembly in SE Asia (Femy Pinto)** - regionalisation process, follow-up from first meeting last year. Essence of meeting is networking and learning. Including some Members that have been with Consortium for a long time and also some newer Members. Considering national priorities, leading into different themes – including snapshot of ‘defending’, ‘sustainable livelihoods’, and ‘documentation processes’. Also attended by friends from Taiwan (not yet finalised whether they will be part of SE Asia or another region). Governance of the region should be member-led. Looking at links between local – national – global. National networks already in place. Vision statement also developed, reflecting priority of pursuing self-strengthening process and building national networks.
7. **Africa (Christian Chatelain)** - wanted to organise the first Regional Assembly in 2019, intended for it to be alongside the Parks Congress in Kenya, however this was delayed and the planning process stalled. Plan now is for some time in 2020. Much progress since the GA 2018. There are now around 20 countries (out of 54 in Africa) where there is at least a focal point or coordinator,

or Members or Honorary members. This has grown from only 4-5 countries several years ago. Documentation is a gap; we discussed yesterday about 154,000 ICCAs-territories of life covering 1 million hectares in Burkino Faso; but we need much more detailed information, case by case. Second progress is regarding networking; two years ago, there were only 2-3 networks, now there are more than 20 networks at national or sub-national level. Of the 20 national focal points, some already have an action plan in place. Legal reviews are also in progress. Greater acceptance from authorities, especially protected areas (PA) authorities – despite the normal antagonism between PAs and local communities. Letter of IUCN re: ICCAs-territories of life was helpful in this transition. Regionalisation process last year defined 5 sub-regions: North, West, Central, South, and East (including Horn of Africa); and have yet to decide where to place Madagascar, and other islands (6 countries are islands in Africa, e.g. Mauritius, Seychelles, etc.). Emmanuel Sulle – Africa is not only francophone Africa, there is also ‘other’ Africa. Last year, we focused efforts on identifying ICCAs-territories of life and we have made good progress in Tanzania, including identification of resources. Also participated in CBD meeting in Nairobi. Aim is to make whole region viable in terms of human and financial resources.

**8. East Asia and Austronesia (Sutej Hugu)** - going beyond the colonial, political regions. Building connections between ICCAs-territories of life in the region’s biocultural diversity and sociolinguistic context.

Taiwan: (Language map shows: 60-80 dialects 200 years ago; now, half the island with single language, other languages (40-50) in other/mountain regions. Much overlap and conflict are present between IP lands and forest lands, PAs, etc.

East Asia includes several countries: China, Korea, Japan. Not sure where to place Mongolia. In Japan, people in Hokkaido recognised, connected to Kamchatka (in circumpolar north).

Map of China shows ethnic minorities; work is to link all minorities, i.e. 110 million people.

Pacific and Indian Ocean islands, widespread coverage.

Additional note: regional meetings are held online to save costs.

Some **guidelines for regionalisation** have been developed to offer some coherence while allowing self-determination:

- Pulled together from findings of past three years
- Discussed actively in Council and Secretariat
- Aiming for approval by June 2020 (will be shared with membership for consultation)
- Should be based on already existing regional processes
- Should be inter regional solidarity and experience exchange
- Role of Regional Hubs:
  - Creatively implementing the Consortium strategy at regional level
  - Nurture collaboration and communication
  - Maintain coherence with the Global Consortium
  - Mandatory annual regional plan and report
  - Fundraising
  - Responsible for relationship with Members and membership management
  - Communication
  - Selection of national focal points
  - Organisation of Regional Assembly

- Role of Regional Assembly:
  - Reviews work to be implemented in region
  - Decides on regional partnerships
  - Decides on regional fundraising strategy
  - Participates in elaboration of work plan
  - Elects a Regional Council (if appropriate)
  - Selects a Regional Representative for election to the Global Council

#### **Some questions still to be decided:**

- How will the regionalisation process allow the Consortium to reinforce its identity as a membership-based organisation?
- What should be the role of Regional Hubs/Coordinators
- What are the criteria to select a Hub?
- Can an Honorary member be a member of Council?
- Fundraising – at regional level and/or at global level

#### **Consortium Members approved the regionalisation process**

#### **Changes to the Statutes (Programme Manager and President)**

Currently, there are three roles that are registered with the power to sign and legally commit the Consortium – President, Treasurer and Secretary. All of these are governance functions and, following this General Assembly, all the holders of these roles will probably be based outside Switzerland where the Consortium and all of its administrative functions are based. We propose that the Programme Manager (currently Sarah – as she is based in Switzerland) and new Global Coordinator (Holly) are added to the group with signatory powers.

#### **Key discussion points:**

The Operational Guidelines detail requirements for approval of expenditures beyond certain amounts.

The Consortium is based in Switzerland where there are minimal legal/administrative requirements for an Association of our size. In other countries, there may be a need to submit annual audited statements approved by the membership, but this is not the case in Switzerland.

This will mainly affect administrative tasks such as Grant agreements, MoAs with partners, tax returns to Swiss authorities, and anything to do with bank accounts and registration authorities in Switzerland.

It would be quite practical to have 5-6 signing authorities to do these types of administrative tasks.

Nothing is stated in the law about who can have signatory powers; it is left up to the Association itself. It just has to be put into the Statutes.

What about financial controls? Should there be a requirement for two people to sign?

In practice, the President and/or Global Coordinator would sign most things like grant agreements and the Programme Manager would sign things that need to be done in person in Switzerland (bank accounts, tax returns, etc.).

With decentralising power, is there any discussion about having a Global Hub that would take responsibility for all of these administrative issues and facilitating the process?

What constitutes financial mismanagement (or not) is defined by the laws of each country – in this case; Switzerland. The most important thing is not how many signatories you have, it's about full transparency and information available to anyone who wants to look at it. As long as that is done and is done in line with the country as required, whatever you are suggesting should be acceptable.

The Consortium is fully transparent and accountable, and the Members are entitled to see the accounts upon request. Although there is no legal requirement for the Consortium to undergo an audit process, we went through a voluntary audit in 2017 with an independent auditing firm and we will do the same on an annual basis from early 2020.

Sergio Couto (speaking on behalf of iComunales): If they are proposing this way forward, it makes sense and is the easiest way forward. I suggest that we endorse and approve the proposal.

Teddy asked if there were any objections to the proposal to have the President, Secretary of Council, Treasurer, Global Coordinator and Programme Manager as signatories for the ICCA Consortium. None were recorded.

**Proposal to change Article 12 of the Statutes of the ICCA Consortium to read:**

“The Association ICCA Consortium is engaged, including financially, by the individual signature of its President, Secretary of Council, Treasurer, Global Coordinator and/or Programme Manager”.

**Proposal to change Article 13 of the Statutes of the ICCA Consortium to read:**

“The accounting period is the Gregorian calendar year (1 January – 31 December), except during the first year when it shall be from the date of establishment to 31 December of that year. The accounts are prepared by the Treasurer and controlled by the Auditor of Accounts designated by the General Assembly. The bank accounts are established and managed by the President, Secretary of Council, Treasurer, Global Coordinator and Programme Manager”.

**Proposed Motion: Iniciativa Comunales**

**Motion Affirmed: Plateau Perspectives**

**No objections**

## Report from ExCo about the evolving governance of the Consortium (Global Coordinator)

[Copy of full presentation available here](#)

**Current composition of Council (30 members) to ensure inter-weaving regional and thematic perspectives:**

- President
- Secretary of Council
- Treasurer
- Chair of Policy & Programme Committee
- Chair of Membership Committee
- 2 co-chairs for Theme on Documenting territories of life
- 2 co-chairs for Theme on Defending territories of life
- 2 co-chairs for Theme on Sustaining territories of life
- 19 members of Council with responsibility for a region

**Three Standing Committees** – Executive Committee, Policy & Programme Committee and Membership Committee - all are composed of members of Council only and are each assisted by a different member of the Secretariat.

**Ad-hoc Committees** – Regionalisation Committee and Search Committee - appointed by Council but composed of a variety of people (Council, Secretariat, other).

**Welcome to new members of Council elected already in 2019** – Paola Maldonado Tobar, Aibek Samakov (acting), Alifereti Tawake, Poooven Moodley and Yingyi Zhang.

**Goodbye and thank you to Council members** who have to step down because they are at the end of their maximum term of service or for other reasons. These members were all thanked for their time and commitment to the work of ICCAs-territories of life and the Consortium:

**Giovanni Reyes**– special responsibility for indigenous peoples. This is no longer a Council role. Giovanni will continue to represent the Consortium in GEF meetings.

**Vivienne Solis Rivera** – special responsibility for Gender. This is no longer a Council role.

**Thomas Jalong** – special responsibility for South-east Asia. Thomas has to step down due to work pressures.

**Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend** – Global Coordinator. Grazia has reached the end of her maximum term of service.

**Jorge Nahuel** – special responsibility for the Cono Sur. Jorge has reached the end of his maximum term of service.

**Council of Elders** – Thomas Moore, Juan Chavez, Dave de Vera and Ashish Kothari. Jorge Nahuel and Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend elected to Council of Elders at Council meeting on 30 November 2019. Council of Elders plays an advisory role; able to take part in Council matters if they wish and are copied on the decisions of Council.

**Vacant positions following departures:**

Secretary of Council  
Treasurer  
Chair Policy & Programme Committee  
Chair Membership Committee  
2 Co-chairs for theme on Sustaining territories of life  
Responsibility for South Cone, including Southern Brazil  
Responsibility for West & Central Asia and the Caucasus – to be ratified  
Responsibility for Circumpolar Northern Europe & Russia  
Responsibility for South Asia  
Responsibility for North Africa  
Responsibility for Australia  
Responsibility for Alaska  
Responsibility for Sub polar Canada  
Responsibility for West, Central and Eastern Europe

Auditor of Accounts – Please identify someone to nominate and elect at this GA.

**Election of new members of Council (President and Programme Manager)**

**Agreed process for Council elections as part of the General Assembly:**

Biographies will be read (for all biographies, please see the [Consortium website](http://www.iccaconsortium.org))  
The nominee will be asked to introduce themselves  
Questions for the nominee will be invited from the Members present  
The nominee will leave the room  
A discussion of the nominee will be held in private  
The nominee will be invited back to the room to hear the decision of the General Assembly

**1. Nomination of Responsibility for West & Central Asia and the Caucasus – Aibek Samakov**

**Proposed Motion: CENESTA**

**Motion Affirmed: Foundation for the Preservation of Wildlife and Culture**

**Questions:**

Pooven: What is the one thing that excites you about being in the Council? *The amount of work.*

**Discussion:**

Ali: Besides his enormous experience with ICCAs—territories of life and work with indigenous peoples, he can speak Russian, English and more – he can help us make strong connections in the region. He has experience with various countries in Central Asia, which is very valuable for us in Central Asia. He is the most appropriate person to be our representative in the Council.

Marc: We also discussed this regionally and he was chosen in the Regional Assembly.

Teddy: If there are no objections, then Aibek’s membership in the Council is approved.

**Nominee reaction:**

Aibek: We all have passion and I hope we can realise our vision together in the coming years.

**2. Nomination of Responsibility for Circumpolar Northern Europe & Russia – Tero Mustonen**

**Proposed Motion: Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend, Secretary of Council**

**Motion Affirmed: TICTU**

**Discussion:**

Curtis: I'm a member of the Tahltan Nation in Canada. I've known Tero since about 1999. I just wanted to add to the bio of Tero – it emphasises his academic credentials, but he has done a lot of work in indigenous communities around fishing all around the Circumpolar region. He's a professional traditional Finnish fisher – all low impact fishing. This is really quite remarkable given he is allergic to fish. He supports the work I'm doing in my community back home because of the respect he has for indigenous-led projects. He doesn't try to impose his agenda or his ways of knowing or his way of getting work done. That's why I work with Tero.

Emma: During the European Regional Assembly, Snowchange was suggested to be the Regional Coordinator / Hub for this region. We don't have many Members in this region but there is an overlap here with Snowchange as secretariat for the region and Tero in this governance role. I just want to have some clarification about this issue. Are there any other Members coming up in the region that could play the hub role?

Grazia: Emma is absolutely right in the sense that it is not desirable to have someone both in the Secretariat and in the Council. However, this has been in a way up to now. As the General Assembly, do we want to maintain this or make an exception. This is the only Member as well, so we don't have any alternatives really. What shall we do?

Sergio: This is related to the slides shown earlier. In the list of regions, there was the Arctic region but then sometimes we saw Central and Eastern Europe, etc. Somehow it was a bit confusing for us.

Grazia: There are two positions in the Council, and I was not at all involved in identifying those. They were identified in a regionalisation meeting. One is Circumpolar Northern Europe and Russia. The other is Circumpolar Canada and Alaska. There is another position for Central and Eastern Europe and for Mediterranean Europe.

Antoine: We would also like a representative for Russia, but it's so sensitive at the moment in Russia – for example, a group working with indigenous peoples was registered as a foreign agent. We are working in a different time scale.

Grazia: It could be that Tero is put ad interim into the Council and then whenever the Hub becomes operational, maybe he leaves the place to someone from Russia.

Aili: I totally recognise this issue. I don't think this is the only situation. The same will apply possibly when we come to North America Circumpolar as well as Oceania. I like this proposal of perhaps having an interim if we don't have anyone else and having consulted with indigenous representatives from Northern Europe, they very much supported Tero in this role, even though he is not indigenous. We currently have no one involved in Russia.



Antoine: I consider Tero as my mentor and Snowchange has such a wide network in these areas. If there is a possibility of putting it on hold or having the position ad interim, that could be a good alternative.

Pooven: Given the number of members in the Consortium and in the Council, there will be clashes going forward. The Executive Committee does a lot of decision-making day-to-day. I think there's more of a conflict if that person is in the Executive Committee.

Teddy: So, the suggestion is for Tero in an interim capacity. If there are no objections, this nomination is approved.

### 3. **Nomination of Responsibility for South Cone, including Southern Brazil – Lucas Quintupuray**

**Proposed Motion: Pueblo Mapuche Neuquén**

**Motion Affirmed: José Aylwin, member of Consortium Council**

#### **Questions:**

Lucas: The proposal came from Jorge Nahuel and supported by Members from Argentina, Chile and Paraguay. I am always committed to the protection of the territory and ancestral culture and as a youth in my community. We didn't have the resources we needed to face all the threats that came to our community but we always say that we don't choose the way we work – it is just given to us as it is, so I am happy to support as much as possible the defence of the territory. We have learned a lot from ICCAs-territories of life – it has been a great contribution for us so we are also happy to contribute to the movement for territories of life.

Grazia: We need to ask him if he is ready to participate in one of the committees.

#### **Discussion:**

Felipe: Before I say anything, I want to stress that Lucas's nomination is very important for us as Mapuche. For us it is very important that the person following Jorge Nahuel is willing to take on the responsibility and we find he is very positive. We also have to take into account that he is an authority in his community, so this is a very good decision.

Jailab: I don't have any knowledge about this region or the process of how Council members get selected. I'm wondering how many individuals – Honorary members or Members – in the region are interested to become members of the Council. How many people are very much excited to contribute voluntarily for the sake of ICCAs-territories of life? Maybe this question is for the people who were there in the Regional Assembly.

Carmen: I want to support Lucas's nomination. We saw his power as a young leader in many opportunities. He is amazing. We need to include young leaders who can grow into the Consortium and we know very well his capabilities and I am absolutely sure that he will do an amazing job and bring his experience into the Consortium.

Emma: They had to replace Jorge Nahuel in the Council because he finished his 3x3-year terms. He is a monument in the South Cone and Latin America more broadly. The Members in the region discussed this internally about who would replace Jorge. Lucas was also the speaker at the IUCN Latin America Parks Congress for the indigenous people's declaration.

Teddy: In the spirit of regionalisation, the vacancies that you see now for the other regions, the regions should choose in their assemblies the nominees to the Council. We don't have to fill all the positions now for the regions – we will wait for the Regional Assemblies to choose who will represent them in the Council. All members to the Council accept the challenge willingly – no one is forced. If there are no more questions or objections, his nomination is approved.

**Nominee reaction:**

Teddy: Now we can ask Lucas what excites him about being a member of the Council.

Lucas: The main issue is to share and work with other indigenous peoples. The main pillar of our engagement is the cosmivision of indigenous peoples. This is the keystone to answer the question of what we want these territories for. It is the root of the history of the people in the territory. To be honest, I haven't yet thought of what I will be involved in but one thing we found very important is the mapping of the territory (cultural, plants, etc.) and protection of the territory. I want to keep on working and share with other peoples and communities and I hope I can make a good job.

**4. Nomination on the spot for Responsibility for South Asia – Sudeep Jana Thing**

**Proposed Motion: Kalpavriksh**

**Motion Affirmed: KRAPAVIS**

Jailab: I would like to propose someone from Nepal for the Council role for South Asia – Sudeep Jana. I hope he can make a good contribution from the region.

Teddy: I would rather have the Members of the region express their sentiments. In pursuit of regionalisation, we would like the Regional Assemblies to choose their representatives to the Council. I don't know if during your South Asia regional assembly you discussed this matter? I would like to listen to the other Members from the region.

Neema: We didn't have a chance to discuss that during the regional assembly. Since there is a vacancy and we think Sudeep could be a good candidate. We could propose Sudeep as an acting Council member and write to all the Members in the region and if there is disagreement, we can bring it back.

Aman: Sudeep has been very active for several years and he would be good to nominate.

Teddy: So, this is not an imposition from the Global Consortium, but this came from the region itself. Here we have Members from the region so if you want to propose a nomination in an interim capacity, we can have it in this GA. Then later on in your regional assembly, you may either affirm that nomination or have another nomination for your representative to the Council. Since he wasn't nominated beforehand, we need a formal nomination for the interim representative to the Council.

Neema – nominated as Kalpavriksh. Aman – seconded for KRAPAVIS.

**Questions:**

Sudeep: I think it's a much more democratic process to discuss these things. I'm really thrilled to take up this interim position. I'm from Nepal – we've been really fortunate to work with the ICCA Consortium and KV in South Asia on some of the pioneering work in the region and in Nepal, especially post-arms struggle. It's a really important political time there with historic opportunity to

work for ICCAs-territories of life in Nepal. One of the reasons I'm thrilled is because I personally want to really contribute to the Regional Hub and upcoming regional work. I've graduated from being youth to a young professional and I've been trying to activate the role of young people in the ICCA Consortium, both from ICCAs-territories of life and friends of ICCAs-territories of life.

**Discussion:**

Grazia: I've known Sudeep for many years. I was impressed by him – he was very young when he started contributing to the Consortium. He wrote the first monograph on all the ICCAs-territories of life he could find in Nepal – identifying areas that were not known for being ICCAs-territories of life. I met him many years ago when he was working with groups of fishermen who were truly suffering. It was in this effort of joining both conservation and equity and publishing that that I really started to appreciate him. Sudeep moved to Australia to do a PhD and then got married and had a child. In this position, it would give him a chance to do more work in his region where his heart is.

Delfin: One thing I really admire is his vision to fight for the youth. It would be important to have a strong youth voice in the Council.

Teddy: If there are no objections, his nomination is approved.

**Nominee reaction:**

Sudeep: I don't think I'm really one to make commitments here but in this new capacity, I'm really thrilled to take up this position. We have Nima Lama here from Tsum Valley. We really want to set up a key moment of celebration. I'm really keen to be part of that story for Tsum Valley next year.

Jailab: Thank you so much for accepting my nomination of Sudeep. I personally apologise to Sudeep – this is not rewarding you. In fact, for me, it is imposing on you a lot of responsibilities for our region! We hope you will be able to deal with all of the challenges.

**5. Nomination of one of the Chairs for theme on Sustaining territories of life – Paul Sein Twa**

**Proposed Motion: Teodoro Baguilat, President**

**Motion Affirmed: PAFID**

**Questions:**

Paul: I'm thrilled to be nominated for this position and I don't know what to say. I think I would like to ask why you nominated me. I don't know if I can perform my duties or tasks well in the position, but I definitely can contribute to the work of the global ICCA Consortium, representing the indigenous peoples' worldview, what we mean by sustainable livelihoods.

Teddy: Just to inform you, we had a meeting with the Southeast Asian Members and he was highly recommended to chair this theme. With his experience in Myanmar and because he is some sort of regional diplomat, and with the success of the Salween Peace Park, we would like to strongly recommend him for this position. I'm happy he is now thrilled!

Paul: Probably you expect many things from me as co-chair. I'm not sure I can fulfil that but I will try my best. I feel that the ICCA Consortium gives me a lot of support to work with my indigenous people and to establish the Salween Peace Park. Many thanks to our mother of ICCAs-territories of

life. So, I also feel like I owe something back to the Consortium, so I am happy to contribute my time.

**Discussion:**

Grazia: The Salween Peace Park is probably the best example of a territory of life that actually takes care of the sustainable livelihoods of its people. Not only does it protect against destructive development and the territorial rights, but it has also engaged the Karen people in a variety of activities – seed exchanges, involving youth and elders, etc. All of this is grounding sustainable livelihoods in the territory of life. The more I learn about it, the more I think it is the most incredible example. This has been largely because of Paul's leadership. He won't be able to do nitty-gritty work, but he will be there, providing advice – like Dave for the theme on documenting territories of life – providing stature and advice and being there as needed.

Delfin: Of all the Members of the Consortium, Paul is the one I've spent several weeks researching. I googled him a lot, read his biography, watched YouTube videos on the Salween Peace Park, and contacted several friends. I found no fault and a lot to admire. The one thing that really got me was his courage. We always think that sustaining territories of life is about sustainable livelihoods – you need a lot of courage to fight for the territory. Paul really fits the bill in terms of advocating for and sustaining territories of life.

Teddy: If there are no objections, his nomination is approved.

**Nominee reaction:**

Paul: I'm so happy to be working with all of you. I have so much to learn from you and so much to share back with my people. I'm happy to also be a bridge.

**6. Nomination of Chair Membership Committee – Aman Singh**

**Proposed Motion: Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend, Secretary of Council**

**Motion Affirmed: Aili Pyhälä, Chair of Membership Committee**

**Questions:**

Aman: I would like to thank whomever nominated me for this. When I received this note from the Secretariat, I was a little worried. It took me two days to reply to that email. The organisation I work with really depends on me, but at the same time, if I am too much involved then how will the next generation in the organisation get their space? So, I thought this is the right way to give some space to them. Similarly, when we were planning the South Asia regional assembly and the General Assembly and the retreat, it will be 24 days for me to be away from the organisation. It is a good test for me and the organisation that I have led for 2.5 decades and see how it will sustain itself. I have been a founding member of several networks in India. I have experience working with member-based networks so I thought I could experience this at the international level. I am very excited about the job, but I know it will take a lot of time. I'm ready to take on that commitment and challenge.

**Discussion:**

Aili: I am one of the people who nominated him. We really thought hard about this in the Exec Committee. When it came to Aman, I had no doubts – having worked with Aman in the Council, I got

a sense of his nature and the way he interacts with people, I found him to be very diplomatic but also very direct and honest. He listens carefully, he is very attentive, and takes matters seriously but is also very polite and gentle. All these attributes are highly valued and encouraged for the position of Membership Committee Chair. I know what it takes, and I have no doubt that Aman can do it. I have committed to accompanying him for the first few months.

Ali: Up to now, we have selected 4-5 men.

Teddy: More nominations are coming but it's a good question. Because we have other vacancies, we hope that we can nominate more women to have strong female voices in the Council.

Sudeep: I'm not trying to give my feedback about his ability but I just wanted to say that he was in our field trip to a women's group. I really witnessed his humbleness. We really felt the vibe.

Teddy: When I was nominated for President, Aman was one of the people who expressed reservations of having a politician nominated. Then he approached me and said he thinks differently about politicians and now engages with politicians. If there are no objections, Aman's nomination is approved.

#### **Nominee reaction:**

Aman: Thank you very much. I know it's really a big task because I have been getting feedback from Aili about the role. I always try to take your advice and consultation. Let's work together.

#### **7. Nomination of Chair Policy & Programme Committee – Tsioriesa Mihanta Bakoliarimisa**

**Proposed Motion: Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend, Secretary of Council**

**Motion Affirmed: Vololoniaina Rasoarimanana, Treasurer**

#### **Questions:**

Mihanta: I'm really honoured by this nomination. When they told me they wanted to nominate me for this position, I was a bit worried and wondered if I am the appropriate person for this position and if I deserve it and if I can manage to hold such responsibility. If there is a will, everything will be possible – so I commit myself. I will bring in the experience of Tafo Mihaavo, which has 500 local communities.

Resiatio: I'm so happy that Mihanta is chosen to be in this position. I know she's going to be great and she can bring something new and as much as I know her, I'm just excited for her.

Sudeep: I would like to hear what does it mean to you as a young person being part of the ICCA Consortium movement? *Mihanta: It is an honour to be part of this big family. I'm feeling a bit uncomfortable because I am younger than most people in this assembly. I'm looking forward to supporting change in the Consortium.*

Anish: I'm really pleased to see a lot of young faces coming forward in the ICCA Consortium this year. A few years back when I was introduced to the ICCA Consortium, there were almost no youth visible. It's a great opportunity and privilege that young people are now coming forward and putting the youth perspective forward – bolstering intergenerational dialogue within the Consortium, which is really important with so many crises. *Mihanta: I commit myself to ensure that youth voices and all Members are heard and included in all policies and programmes of the Consortium.*

Terence: You were an intern with SGP and now you're with Tafo Mihaavo. Which one was harder work? *Mihanta: Both of them required very hard work. I had to deal with a lot of local communities and issues they are facing.*

Nepal: I'm very much happy. Just because there are a lot of men, it doesn't mean they don't support women. I know Sudeep is supportive of women. Seeing a young woman standing in front of us is great.

Vololona: What do you expect from less young people in terms of intergenerational collaboration? *Mihanta: I'm quite new to the ICCA Consortium but I know that everything will be through learning and doing things at the same time. I expect to learn a lot from elders. There is a lot of knowledge. I hope the elders share with me their experience so I can step forward with all the Members.*

#### **Discussion:**

Teddy: This discussion shows the importance of Mihanta's nomination. And the Policy & Programme Committee does very important work – please contribute to the work when she asks for inputs.

Resiato: I met Mihanta this year. She works hard, she doesn't give up and she is very loving and kind. For us in the younger generation, having a person with a lot of potential such as Mihanta is very important.

Terence: I want to pay testament to the whole SGP-Madagascar team – they have made miracles happen in the most challenging circumstances and they are one of the strongest national programmes in the world. I want to acknowledge Vololona as the first SGP National Coordinator and Mihanta was a starling intern.

Pooven: I was really worried earlier on when I saw Hugu's presentation – it seemed like he was trying to annex Madagascar away from Africa. I'm glad to see a representative from Madagascar. Mihanta has an amazing brain and has skills and expertise that will enable her to do a great job.

Grazia: Mihanta is not just a young, promising woman – she has dealt with the secretariat of Tafo Mihaavo. It is a federation of 500+ territories of life and their governing bodies. That means that she has been dealing with the needs and capacities and hard work that an ideal Member of the Consortium deals with. Here we have a national network that is in a very difficult situation and is growing and she has been serving them faithfully for a long time. She has to learn what the Council and ExCo do, but she comes with the roots strongly planted in the ground.

Vololona: You have talked about all of her qualities. I don't know if the comparison is correct but Mihanta is for me like Holly is for Grazia and if you trust in Holly, I trust that Mihanta will really do great things for the Consortium. She has a lot of energy and I endorse her nomination.

Teddy: If there are no objections, her nomination is approved.

#### **Nominee reaction:**

Mihanta: Thank you so much for this opportunity. I know I must learn so much and I have to do a lot of things and I also must overcome some barriers like language and my shyness. I'm not so talkative during these meetings. I promise that I commit myself and will do my best for the ICCA Consortium.

#### 8. Nomination of Treasurer – Colin Scott

Proposed Motion: Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend, Secretary of Council

Motion Affirmed: Aili Pyhälä, Chair of Membership Committee

##### Questions:

Colin: I'm the only nominee that stands before you with no qualifications for the role. The first time I was asked to stand for nomination, I actually turned it down, but I was assured that there is an accountant.

Grazia: Colin is not necessarily the ideal Treasurer, but he is the ideal person to be in the ExCo. He has been working all over the world and has so much commitment and personal capacities for this position. We all trust him. We have been happy to be with him in many meetings we have had together. It is a pleasure that he said yes after lots of cajoling. It is with great gratitude that I would like to say thank you for accepting.

Aibek: What is the main treasure of the Consortium? *Colin: Everyone in this room.*

##### Discussion:

Aili: We worked together on the MacArthur proposal, including a \$100 million budget and I can assure you that he can do this. He is a rare gem in terms of his generosity and humility. I can't even find the words to express how grateful I am, and we are for how much he has given to us in the Consortium since CICADA joined. It has just been unbelievable and out of pure service and generosity and wanting to support.

Delfin: I just got to know Colin in this GA, but last night we already exchanged documents because of the feeling of trust. I worry more when somebody is obsessed with being Treasurer because they might run away with the money. I like that he is honest about it – honesty is the most important.

Holly: Just to mention something that was raised internally in the nomination process – Colin is with the Member CICADA and we have one joint funding proposal and will likely have more together in the future. We will have to ensure that there are no conflicts of interest between his role as Treasurer and any joint funding proposals we may do with CICADA.

Teddy: If there are no objections, Colin's nomination is approved.

##### Nominee reaction:

Colin: I do have more experience with hunting for funds than with accounting. I do hope that some of the opportunities CICADA is pursuing with the Consortium will bear fruit. This really is the greatest treasure of the Consortium

#### 9. Nomination of Secretary of Council – Aili Pyhälä

Proposed Motion: Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend, Secretary of Council

Motion Affirmed: Vololoniaina Rasoarimanana, Treasurer

##### Questions:

Aili: Thanks for the nomination, whoever nominated me. This doesn't come as a surprise – I was warned about this already some months ago. I have to say I have thought about it very hard. I was going to take a year off from everything – but I can't walk away from the Consortium now at this



critical moment. It would be very irresponsible, and I feel a duty and a calling to step into that ¼ of Grazia's shoes. She has given me so much and the Consortium has given me so much and the least I can do is help in this challenging but very exciting moment, with renewed Council and ExCo. I do have my hesitations as I believe anyone does who is stepping into any of Grazia's roles – all I can say is that I will do the best I can. There's no way I can be Grazia or anything like her, but I trust that you will support me along the way. I have a lot of confidence in this Council and being the Secretary of Council will be a pleasure if you do elect me.

Pooven: I've known Aili for a long three days but just a quick endorsement. We spent a lot of time travelling in the car together and I was able to interrogate her fully. Certainly, she is a person of integrity and I think she will do a fantastic job. I think the most admirable quality is your connectedness with peoples from different territories of life around the world. It's more than being an academic but the way you connect is really important. Bringing that integrity into the role is absolutely key – highly recommended.

**Discussion:**

Emma: I just wanted to endorse and insist on the fact that when Aili came into the Membership Committee, she completely changed the functioning of the Committee – she took the issues very seriously and has made big changes. It has been a huge step forward for the Consortium. I really enjoyed working with her – not only for her capacity to think about how to improve the issues, but also for the care she uses in managing the team. I highly recommend Aili.

GBF: I'd like to underline what Pooven said. You know who introduced Aili to me? Ashish. These connections from across continents are amazing how we have a tapestry of people knowing and trusting each other. Many people can be introduced but few really remain close and friends. It's like a process of meeting and trusting and getting to know each other and selecting the best among our own connections. She has a very difficult job – the Councillors will need to dedicate some time to the Consortium, and she will be the 'Enthusier' in Chief. I'm very confident she will be able to do this.

Teddy: If there are no objections, Aili's nomination is approved.

**Nominee reaction:**

Aili: I don't have anything else to say but thank you and I look forward to continuing working with you all. You're my family and tribe.

**Auditor of Accounts** – this is an important statutory position, also plays role of ombudsperson, not part of Council or Secretariat but must be appointed at GA. Criteria – understand accounting, trusted by all, should come from Members (as their representative vis-à-vis the Treasurer). Ideally understands three languages (but this has not been the case in the past). The accountant does the accounting, the Treasurer receives the accounts and signs off on them and the Auditor of Accounts – on behalf of all the Members – watches over this.

Holly proposed Marc Foggin.

Grazia: You will have the easiest job in the world because the accounts will be audited by an independent Swiss auditor.

Marc: In trust and faith that it is roughly in line with what was presented, then I am willing – also because of the values of the Consortium.

Teddy: **Marc Foggin (of Plateau Perspectives) is hereby appointed as Auditor of Accounts.**

**Consortium Members approved by consensus the changes to Council and designation of Auditor of Accounts**

### President closes the XVth General Assembly

Recall of the Programme for forthcoming 3 days of work

**20:24 President thanked everyone for their contribution to a very productive two days of meetings and closed the XVth General Assembly.**

Short Minutes signed by ExCo, Global Coordinator and Programme Manager.

