

17th General Assembly of the ICCA Consortium (Association Consortium pour les Aires et Territoires du Patrimoine Autochtone et Communautaire)

8 - 10 June 2021, 14:00-16:30 CET

Members, Honorary members and observers participated virtually via Zoom

Actions and decisions

Notes

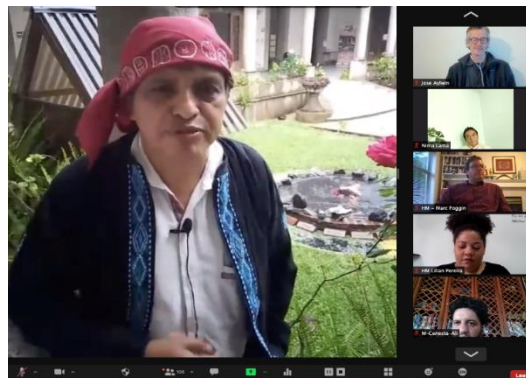
171 unique participants took part in the 17th General Assembly. As per the Statutes, there is quorum if at least one-fifth of the Members in good standing are present at the time of a decision. There was quorum each time a decision was taken during the GA.

Minutes of Day One: Tuesday 8 June 2021

14:00 Welcome by President

Teddy Baguilat, the ICCA Consortium President welcomed everyone to the 17th General Assembly, held online from 8 – 10 June 2021.

Felipe Gomez formally opened the event to all participants from around the world. He asked for blessings from Mother Nature for this Assembly and for the work that everyone does for communities. He spoke about the defenders of territories of life and asked the spirits to guide us and protect us on our path. Felipe thanked our Elders for making the dream of a network of territories of life real and he spoke of his hope that one day everyone will understand the need to protect the earth and all the life that lives here.



The General Assembly (GA) Agenda for all three days was read by Teddy Baguilat, the ICCA Consortium President.

Zoom polls were used to canvass the views of all participants in the General Assembly and help us to reach consensus on issues to be decided. Everyone was invited to respond to polls as they were used as an instrument to check that consensus had been reached. In the unlikely event of a vote on any issue then only Member representatives would be able to vote. Colin Scott explained this more in the session on consensus on day 2.

Motion to adopt the agenda proposed by Natural Justice (Member), seconded by KRAPAVIS (Member)
Motion to adopt the General Assembly Agenda – approved (poll 1)

President's report for 2020/2021

Teddy Baguilat (President)

It is with immense pride and honour that I present to you a Springboard for Action or the President's report to our General Assembly this June 8 which is also coincidentally World Oceans Day.

In the past six months – in spite of the pandemic and doing most of our activities remotely and online, the ICCA Consortium has become even more cohesive and more prepared to fulfil our main mandate of gaining world-wide recognition to our governance of our territories of life.



Membership has grown. Our financial capacity and human resources are at their strongest and most stable in our 10 years of existence. This is the work of our global Secretariat and the good foundations laid by our founding leaders. But more importantly, the Council – the political leadership and where our democratic representation resides – has started to embrace its leadership role. We have conducted quarterly Council meetings, monthly Executive Committee meetings and regular consultations with Members to discuss our Governance Procedures and Membership Policy & Procedures (which will be

presented before the GA tomorrow and Thursday). May I emphasize that approval of these policies and procedures is crucial to ensure that all members whether Honorary or organisational, whether Council or Elders, are given equal opportunities to participate in ICCA Consortium decision making and activities.

For me, the highlight of the past six months was the launch of our major report on Territories of Life. It is a labour of love from our Secretariat and a big team of authors, contributors and volunteers and after two years in the making was launched last May 20. The report contains empirical evidence that territories of life are the most effective means of protecting the planet's biodiversity and to summarize the report's recommendations, calls on all stakeholders to support and push for legal recognition of Indigenous peoples' and local communities' rights and governance of their territories of life.

As your President, I will ensure that this report will not end up in the dustbin of history. We must now galvanize our Members who plan to participate in the COPs of the Convention on Biological Diversity and Climate Action conference to use this report as one of their main references in our engagement.

We would like to ensure that our Secretariat will seek ways to make this report easily accessible and digested by our Members to help them in lobbying their governments and lawmakers. We also must share this report with other like-minded organizations as part of our movement building. Lastly, I would like our Council to take a look at this report to study valuable insights and think of action steps you think we can pursue to push its recommendations.

Yes, the Council is more than just a gathering of extraordinary people. It is not just a group of leaders representing constituencies. The Council becomes extraordinary when it is able to drive the ICCA Consortium to fulfil its goals. The Council becomes a genuine representative of the membership when it is able to mobilize the Members to be more active in our ICCA Consortium activities.

It is therefore one of our 2021 imperatives to have our Council lead in the review of our past strategic plan and take the lead in shaping our next strategy. That way, we get more direct participation from our Members in crafting and executing our plans.

The ICCA Consortium membership has expanded and is now present in almost all the corners of the world. But in the pursuit of regionalization, we must now, with more zeal and determination, build membership and organize regional assemblies where we are unorganized. Let us be ambassadors of the ICCAs by helping recruit more Members in other parts of the world, particularly those who are genuine custodians of territories of life.

The past six months have been an exercise of consolidation. The next six months must be an exercise of purposeful action.

In a world ravaged by the pandemic and with an emerging new normal taking place, there is a clamour to listen more to Indigenous peoples and the power of community governance whether it is for the protection of the planet's biodiversity or building more collective resilience. My friends, the opportunity is with us, NOW.

Motion to note the President's report for 2020/2021 – approved (poll 2)

Member spotlight 1 – Territories of Life – 2021 Report

[Please see here for the slideshow](#)

To read the full Report, please see
<https://report.territoriesoflife.org/>



Report on implementation of Strategy and 2020/2021 Work Programme

The ICCA Consortium secretariat presented updates. [Please see here for the full presentation.](#)

A. **Holly Jonas (Global Coordinator)** – slides 2 - 6

After the last General Assembly, the Secretariat gathered online to reflect on 2020 and develop an action plan for 2021.

Together, we identified three overall goals and ambitions for 2021:

1. **Strengthen our multi-faceted support for the movement for Indigenous peoples' and communities' territories of life.**
Focus on strengthening our support for the movement for territories of life by supporting Indigenous peoples and communities in our membership to document, sustain and defend their ICCAs—territories of life through processes of peer learning and exchange, skill-sharing, solidarity and collective action. Increase the representation and engagement of Indigenous peoples' and community organisations in our membership through things like translation and interpretation, supporting grassroots organisations to participate in various events, and more regular communication with Regional Coordinators. By the end of the year, we will have documented the ICCA Consortium's history and articulated a clearer and more representative organisational and visual identity.
2. **Increase our influence and impact in key national and global decision-making processes that affect territories of life and the Indigenous peoples and communities who protect, conserve and defend them.**
 - a. **Advance the evidence base for ICCAs—territories of life and coordinate a compelling campaign that articulates their diverse contributions.** We recently launched a major report on territories of life, with an accompanying communications campaign. A number of other publications are underway, such as a regional report on territories of life in West and Central Asia.
 - b. **Support our Members to self-organise in national networks and advocate for appropriate recognition and support for territories of life in several countries.** This has included financial and technical support for national networks in Madagascar, Senegal, Nepal and Guatemala. A number of national legal reviews are being finalised under the Global Support Initiative for ICCAs, which provide an important technical basis for strategic advocacy.

- c. **Actively support our Members to engage in the UN negotiations of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, with a particular focus on advocating for Indigenous peoples' and local communities' rights, governance systems and collective lands and territories.** Although it is unclear if the post-2020 framework will actually be adopted later this year, many activities are still underway, including grassroots and national consultations on the draft framework, communications support, and an exciting new peer learning group.
- d. **Develop a clear position and programme on conservation justice,** building on years of previous work and focusing on strategic opportunities such as influencing conservation organisations' positions in the post-2020 process, and developing new concepts such as conservation supply chains and human rights-based financing for conservation.
3. **Improve our organisational governance and management systems in service of our membership.**
 - a. **Undertake a review of our current strategic plan** by the end of the year and develop a new strategic plan for 2022-2025.
 - b. **Support the Council to develop and finalise the draft Governance Procedures and Membership Policy and Procedures,** both are tabled for approval during this General Assembly. This is an important step forward in clarifying the Consortium's governance systems, and we will support the Council to put them into practice immediately after the GA.
 - c. **Review all the management systems and develop policies and procedures within the Secretariat** that reflect our organisational culture and values and provide more clarity and consistency for our team.
 - d. **Strengthen our capacities and resources** to deliver on all of this work on an ongoing basis, including meeting key targets of the fundraising strategy.

B. Alison Powell (Administration Coordinator) – slides 7 - 8

in total there are 179 Members and over 420 Honorary members from all over the world, over half of them are Indigenous Peoples or Local Communities. We have accepted 19 Members and 22 Honorary members since our last General Assembly. We now have two membership application rounds a year. The next deadline for new Member applications and Honorary member nominations is **JULY 15th**. As part of our effort to provide a better integration process for new members, we've started to hold Welcome Events so that new Members can meet regional coordinators and each other, learn how to become active in the ICCA Consortium and discover how to get the most from their membership. Last year we did our first Member Review, and the changes we've adopted so far and those ahead are a reflection of the feedback we heard. We will be doing an Honorary member Review later this year or early next year, to learn more about our Honorary members and find ways to help increase their engagement.

C. Regional Coordinators

Lorena Arce (Regional Coordinator for the South Cone) – slides 10 – 13

- **Argentina**
 - ICCA Argentina Network, in the process of consolidation
 - virtual meetings
 - development of network regulations (under discussion)
 - design strategic, financing and communications plan
- **Chile**
 - Virtual meetings to advance the new ICCA Network in Chile (9 Member organizations)
 - Execution of the Initiative to support the ICCAs of Fishing Communities (5 communities and local networks)
- **Paraguay, our Member, FAPI, reports progress in:**
 - Indigenous Community Protection Proposals
 - Pilot Initiative: Demarcation of Indigenous lands
 - A historic achievement as the President of the Republic promulgated Law 6,615 that expropriates lands for the Y'aka Marangatú Indigenous community after 25 years of struggle.
- **Mapuche people/community**

- **Chile / Argentina:** The Inclusive Conservation Initiative selected the “Resguardo del Territorio Biocultural Futa Mawiza” as one of 9 projects around the world.
- **GSI Initiative**
 - **Argentina:**
 - 1st call, 18 projects in 19 departments of 9 provinces
 - 2 Scholarships for Indigenous Peoples of the 18 ICCA projects have been awarded
 - A strategic project of accompaniment to ICCA projects and the consolidation of an ICCA Network in Argentina.
 - 16 projects were chosen as a “Response to Covid”
 - **Paraguay:**
 - 11 local initiatives to strengthen ICCAs are in their first phase
 - Evaluation of proposals of "Responses to COVID19"

Carmen Miranda (Regional Coordinator for the Amazon) – slides 14 – 17

- The ICCA Bolivia Network is starting under the GSI this year.
- In Brazil, with the coordination of MUPAN, the network has been strengthened and is influencing political decision-making spaces. The first ICCA has been registered in the WCMC database.
- ICCA Ecuador is strengthening its internal organization, has registered 5 territories and contributed to the Territories of Life – 2021 Report.
- In Colombia, the ICCA Network has been consolidated.
- In Peru, the first phase of GSI has concluded. FENAMAD (Peru) and SAVIA (Bolivia) are leading the Inclusive Conservation initiative for a cross-border Amazon Region (6 Indigenous territories in Bolivia and 5 in Peru).

Albert Chan Dzul (Regional Coordinator for Mesoamerica) – slides 18 - 19

- Strengthening of national ICCA networks
- Follow-up to the ICCA network in México
- Participatory construction of strategic planning
- Participatory design of a dissemination plan
- Preparation of follow-up projects within the second phase of the GSI
- Review of GSI project proposals with SGP Panama
- Coordination meetings
- Project review

2021 Plan

- Review of GSI project proposals with SGP Panama
- Coordination meetings
- Project Review
- Strengthen membership participation and review the membership base in Mesoamerica
- Strengthen the participation of young people and women
- Preparation of joint financing projects in Mesoamerica for: documenting, sustaining and defending
- Holding a national forum of the ICCA Mexico Network
- Workshops for projects approved in Panama under the GSI
- Virtual workshop for projects approved in Belize under the GSI

Sutej Hugu (Regional Coordinator for East Asia) – slides 20 - 21

- China will host the CBD COP 15 as a hybrid of physical and virtual participation. China ICCA Working Group is preparing a side-event on CCAs.
- Mongolia proposed to the UN to designate 2026 as the "International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists". This will be approved in September. The first Asia Grassland ICCAs-territories of life workshop series collaborating with West & Central Asia and South Asia regional hubs and RISG Central Asia & Mongolia will soon be held.
- ICCA Working Group Mongolia was established in April and has applied for membership.

- China ICCA Working Group will discuss applying for membership at its next meeting.
- Japan – we connected with Ainu IP activist organizations and we are planning a workshop on Indigenous decolonization and sustainable self-determination, with the collaboration of Cherokee scholar Jeff Corntassel.

Ali Razmkhah (Regional Coordinator for West and Central Asia and the Caucasus) – slides 22 - 23

- Expand the ICCA Consortium network in the region by identifying potential Members, supported by the KAFLU institute in Kyrgyzstan. We have 1 new Member in Iran and 4 new Members in Kyrgyzstan.
- Technical and facilitatory support activities continued to five sustainable livelihood councils of Iranian nomadic tribes that are members of UniNomad and have projects under the GSI. Consortium Members in Kyrgyzstan and Jordan prepared proposals for Phase II of the GSI.
- Content and knowledge production:
 - Regional peer-review study by Aibek Samakov and Marc Foggin;
 - Case Study on an Emblematic ICCA—territory of life - Chahdegal; and
 - A national analysis report on the status of territories of life in IranBoth of the last reports were prepared for the Territories of Life - 2021 Report.

Amy Maling for NTFP-EP (Regional Coordinator for Southeast Asia) – slides 24 - 25

- Strengthening the regional network - we held 3 workshops to develop our Regional Strategy Plan, this should be completed before our next online regional assembly.
- Regional Council – very active with monthly meetings and updates from the countries.
- Quarterly snapshots of activities are uploaded on the ICCA Consortium website.
- Membership strengthening - 2 new Members from Myanmar - Point and Rawang Youth Association.
- Issued an open letter and call to action in support to our partners and IPLCs in Myanmar.
- Fundraising – some success at regional level for activities, exchange learnings and a regional case study on the state of ICCAs in Southeast Asia to be undertaken in the coming quarter.
- Networking and collaboration - through NTFP EP platforms - discussions on wild foods, biodiversity and livelihoods.
- Collaboration with the ASEAN Center for biodiversity (ACB) on the identification and reporting of OECMs leading to a case study which was presented in the ACB conference.

Sergio Couto (Regional Coordinator for Europe) – slides 26 – 27

- Establishment of a region-wide network called "Common Lands Network" which currently includes about 40 members in Europe, Middle East and North Africa. At country level, we are strengthening or establishing national networks in 19 countries, the Spanish communities are the most active.
- Influencing policies at regional level - the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), influencing the EU's biodiversity strategy for 2030 and influencing the post-2020 processes of the CBD.
- Common Lands Network digital platform – to be online in September.
 - A directory of people, organisations and communities related to commons or ICCAs.
 - Contact names at national level.
 - Demonstrative cases to illustrate the values defended by ICCAs-territories of life.

Emmanuel Sulle (Regional Coordinator for East Africa) – slides 28 - 29

- Contributed a case study on UCRT to the Territories of Life – 2021 Report. We believe this will help to secure more recognition of ICCAs, and Indigenous and local communities protecting these ICCAs.
- 3 Members have applied for Phase II GSI grants.
- First online meeting of Members in Kenya to decide on priorities.
- In Tanzania, national meetings will be held later this year. Our member, UCRT has been selected for the Global Environment Facility's Inclusive Conservation Initiative.
- ICCA Consortium, in collaboration with Members and supporters, continues to offer advice and technical support to Ekuri Community in Nigeria as part of our defending territories of life work.

Job Morris (Regional Coordinator for Southern Africa) – slides 30 - 31

- Work with San Youth Network, an ICCA Consortium Member that is based in Botswana. Resisting massive threats to the ecosystems and San heritage posed by oil and gas exploration and drilling by a Canadian mining company, ReconAfrica.
- San also face significant threats from the Central Kalahari Game Reserve of Botswana due to unlawful eviction and lack of access to resources and social services.
- I joined the ICCA Consortium in October 2020 and have been reaching out to many Indigenous organisations in the region. COVID-19 and the resulting drying out of funds have had a severe impact on those organisations. There are 7 organisations in the region that are interested in joining the ICCA Consortium.

Salatou Sambou (Regional Coordinator for Coastal West Africa) – slides 32 - 33

Senegal has 27 ICCAs - marine and coastal, freshwater and forest. Senegal is in favour of local territorial governance and community conservation but efforts are needed to secure legal recognition.

- **Activities**
 - Identification of ICCAs in the south-east zone of Niokolo koba and Tambacounda
 - Petition raised for legal recognition
 - Support mission for the focal point in Gambia
- **Threats**
 - Lack of legal recognition at the national level
 - Fading of community volunteerism (future generation)
 - Lack of physical delimitation of several ICCAs
 - Loss of traditional values in younger generations
- **Legal aspects**
 - No specific legal framework for ICCAs, just general texts (environmental laws, hunting and nature protection, maritime fishing, territorial authorities, transfer of management of National Resources, decrees and orders).
 - Weak application of the international recognition of ICCAs by Senegal (IUCN and CBD).
 - A local decree recognizes ICCAs, but lack of subsidies for its promotion.
- **Opportunities**
 - Drafting of the biodiversity law in Senegal
 - Ratification of international conventions (CBD, etc)
 - Existence of *ANAPAC-Senegal*

Alexis Kaboré (Regional Coordinator for the Sahel Region) – slides 34 – 35

- Strengthening of national ICCA networks - new local communities and sub-networks emerging which are gaining technical and organisational skills through training, exchange visits and self-governance. There has been extensive media coverage of activities and scientific research has been initiated.
- Work on the legal recognition of ICCAs is progressing with the development of national legal frameworks, proposals for appropriate forms of recognition and the start of a recognition process.
- Some ICCAs have benefited from physical improvements through reforestation and the placing of indication panels.
- The identification and documentation of new ICCAs continues - ecological inventory, mapping, data collection and entries in the global ICCA registry.
- The GSI Phase II has been launched and projects have been selected.

Joseph Itongwa (Regional Coordinator for Central Africa) – slides 36 – 37

- At national level in DRC - we are identifying and supporting identified territories of life.
- The Democratic Republic of Congo has adopted a new law on the rights of Pygmy Indigenous peoples, which also advances the possibility of legal recognition of ICCAs.
- In Cameroon, we have a new Member - the FIDEPE Foundation.

- We are preparing an online sub-regional assembly of the ICCA Consortium. This will prepare the way for the regional assembly which will happen next year during the African Parks Congress.
- We are also preparing for COP15 and deciding on our position for the post-2020 global framework.
- ANAPAC, the national network of ICCAs in the Democratic Republic of Congo, is growing and mobilizing Indigenous Peoples' and civil society organisations to work on biodiversity.

Questions and discussion:

Grazia Borrini (Honorary member and Council of Elders) - wonderful report and presentations.

Hector Vinasco (Member - RED TICCAs Colombia) – in Colombia we have 10 communities being registered in the global database.

Dolorès André (Member – UAPASHKUSS) – will there someone from North America to present a report today? We are a first nation from north of Quebec. We have done a lot of work in influencing leaders to recognise IP and sacred sites.

Nathaniel Don Marquez (Member – ANGOC) – will there be a consolidated update on the status of the work plan in relation to the three goals? **Holly Jonas** – yes, on Day 3 of the GA and as part of the mid-year Secretariat planning meetings in July.

Clovis Koagné (Member – FIDEPE) – is there is a synchronised country-region-secretariat action plan or does each country carry out its actions and then there is a synthesis? **Holly Jonas** – the RC for Central Africa is Joseph Itongwa, he will connect separately with you about this.

D. June Rubis (Council co-chair of thematic area of work on documenting territories of life) – slides 39 - 40
On behalf of the working group on Documenting Territories of Life. Highlights include:

- In partnership with the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, we hosted a workshop on the ICCA Registry and peer review and support processes in Latin America, emphasising the impressive processes underway among several Indigenous nations in Ecuador.
- Release of the revised and mobile-friendly version of the self-strengthening guidance for Indigenous peoples and local communities and their territories of life.
- With input from the membership, we contributed to a peer-reviewed article on the impacts of and responses to COVID-19 which was published in the IUCN Parks journal in March.
- We have just published the Territories of Life – Report 2021. This is hosted on a specially designed website and it includes 17 case studies of territories of life, 6 national and sub-regional analyses, a global spatial analysis and an executive summary. The launch was announced at a dedicated event and at two press conferences.

E. Sarah Alakara (Council co-chair of thematic area of work on sustaining territories of life) – slides 41 - 42
In Southeast Asia, the Philippine ICCA Consortium celebrated [National Indigenous Peoples' Month](#) by organising events on Indigenous peoples' governance and food systems, and on the role of Indigenous peoples and their ancestral domains in preventing and responding to pandemics. In addition, the Non-Timber Forest Products Exchange Programme released a [short film](#) about the rotational farming system of the Karen Indigenous peoples in northern Thailand.
In West Africa, the ICCA Consortium supported our Members in Guinea and Benin to organise awareness-raising activities on COVID-19, and how communities are responding to the pandemic.
As part of the ICCA Consortium's community fisheries initiative, Members in Chile, Tanzania and Malaysia started grassroots and policy level activities. Three peer learning and exchange sessions on community fisheries focused on the topics of governance; women and youth; and restoration and revitalisation. We

have also published opinion articles and hosted online events about the potential impacts of the 30-by-30 campaign on communities in coastal and marine areas.

The ICCA Consortium is also part of an emerging network on Indigenous-led education, co-organised by the Forest Peoples Programme and others.

Finally, our Members are helping promote the proposed International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists in several countries and regions. In Asia, a special event will be held on 16 July in honour of Taghi Farvar, our late co-founder and President.

F. Pooven Moodley and José Aylwin (Council co-chairs of thematic area of work on defending territories of life) – slides 43 - 44

Since the last GA, the ICCA Consortium has issued alerts and provided different forms of support for several Indigenous peoples and local communities who are facing threats:

- a. We published an alert and provided behind-the-scenes support for the [Pueblo Shuar Arutam in Ecuador](#) as they resist mining and infrastructure projects and threats to their President.
- b. We published an open letter and alert in support of the Karen people and the [Salween Peace Park](#) in Burma/Myanmar, after they were horrifically bombed by the military junta.
- c. After the Tumandok faced a series of violent and lethal attacks in the Philippines, we assisted local groups to map out an advocacy and support strategy, and sent a letter to the Korean bank that is financing a mega-dam.
- d. Another support process is currently underway with the Ekuri community in Nigeria as they resist a logging company.
- e. We have responded to several other ad hoc requests for support in Guatemala, Ecuador, [Nicaragua](#), Venezuela, Malaysia and India, including by sharing options for emergency funding, legal and technical assistance, and communications and public outreach.

Internationally, we have remained involved in the Defending the Defenders Coalition, Land Rights Now global campaign, the Geneva Road Map initiative, and civil society networks advocating for universal recognition of the human right to a healthy environment.

Finally, we are very pleased to welcome Milka Chepkorir as coordinator of this stream of work. Milka is from the Indigenous Sengwer community and also coordinates Community Land Action Now in Kenya.

G. Lucas Quintupuray and Josefa Tauli (co-chairs of the Youth Group) – slides 45 - 46

Since the last GA, the main focus of the Youth Group was organising and participating in several events during the [IUCN Global Youth Summit](#) in April. We led two powerful sessions on territories of life, one on sustaining and one on defending. Each had several Indigenous youth speakers as well as elders and supporters from our membership. We also participated in the high-level intergenerational dialogue on Indigenous peoples and conservation, which offered valuable insights into the importance of indigenizing institutions, practicing Indigenous knowledge and traditions, and meaningful ways to support Indigenous youth. Youth Group member Luciano Régis Cardoso organised another session about youth in the Pan Amazon region.

The Youth Group also joined the ICCA Consortium's peer learning sessions on the Convention on Biological Diversity, which were co-organised with the Global Youth Biodiversity Network. In addition, Josefa participated as a youth representative in a forum on wild foods, biodiversity and livelihoods in Asia, co-organized by our Member NTFP-EP. Finally, we would like to congratulate [Vatosoa Rakotondrazafy](#), who recently received a Top 100 Young African Conservation Leaders Award for her work with the MIHARI Network and fishing communities across Madagascar.

H. Ameyali Ramos Castillo (International Policy Coordinator) – slides 47 - 48

We have created a peer-learning and exchange group to collectively learn about the CBD and the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and about national and regional priorities.

We have a new International Policy Assistant, Carolina Rodriguez from the ICCA network in Colombia.

The Post-2020 global biodiversity framework is due to be adopted in October and we are actively participating in the negotiations to advocate for the adequate recognition of rights of IPLCs and the outsized role that they play in the conservation of nature. We are working closely with the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and other allies to lobby governments to include rights-based approaches in the framework.

I. Mohammad Arju (Communications Coordinator) – slides 49 – 52

Our internal and external communications have been significantly improved:

- Regular updates are published on our online platforms
- Fast and reliable support for Members from the Communications Coordinator
- Enhanced use of communications channels - email lists, direct emails, updates to subscribers (via MailChimp), and instant messaging (via WhatsApp)
- Improved user interface of our website and redesigned Newsflash
- Increased capacity to respond and connect with external parties to offer more opportunities for our membership to promote their work and secure recognition
- Draft communication strategy prepared based on inputs from membership and the Secretariat team, and social media guidelines

J. Kathia Carillo (Multimedia and Campaigns Coordinator) – slides 53 - 58

The main event was the launch of the Territories of Life – 2021 Report which included two press conferences and a launch event. I coordinated the advocacy in national media. Jesed Mateo produced Illustrations which were used with content for social networks and this dissemination will continue.

The two press conferences were open to journalists who were invited with help from regional coordinators, friends and representatives of the territories of life. We will also develop a press kit in 3 languages, with press releases, photos, summary of the case studies and the executive summary. The team who worked on this was Kathia, Thomas, Arju, Holly and the translation coordinators Gaëlle and Daniela.

The launch had more than 200 attendees and a good rebound on social networks. The pre-production of the event involved convening and coordinating with exhibitors, coordinating with those who were presenters, making a public announcement and coordinating with the director of the WCMC and with the Executive Secretary of the CBD.

Finally, in the second half of the year I will be able to take up the initiative of organising a peer-to-peer learning programme on communication.

K. Daniela Campos & Gaëlle Le Gauyer (Spanish and French translation and interpretation) – slides 59 - 60

We rely on the support of 26 Spanish, 14 English and 20 French-speaking collaborators to help us with translations, proofreading, and remote simultaneous interpretation for live events and meetings. So far this year, we have been able to provide 57 hours of remote simultaneous interpretation in various language combinations. 20 semi-volunteers and volunteers supported the translations of the Territories of Life – 2021 Report. Most of this work has been done on a voluntary basis but, for the first time, we have been able to offer some modest compensation for some of this work.

L. Sarah Ryder (Programme Manager) – slides 61 - 62

- We are strengthening our working culture around compassion, community and solidarity.
- Alison Powell is improving our membership administration systems.
- Changes in the Secretariat:
 - Emma Courtine who had been with the ICCA Consortium since 2013 (latterly as Membership Engagement Coordinator) moved on to new challenges with La Via Campesina.
 - Eli Enns moved on from his role as Regional Coordinator for North America.
 - Milka Chepkorir joined as the Coordinator for Defending Territories of Life.

- Internal systems:
 - We held the first ever Secretariat planning meeting with the Regional Coordinators and the global team to build links with one another and collectively develop the Action Plan for 2021.
 - To improve communications and facilitate exchange and learning, we now hold monthly Secretariat meetings, alternating between a meeting of the global team and a meeting of the whole Secretariat.
 - We have started to hold regular reviews with all members of the Secretariat.
 - We are expanding and recording all our internal policies and procedures to provide transparent information.

M. Holly Jonas (Global Coordinator) – slides 63 - 67

The four main priorities of our fundraising strategy are:

1. strengthen core funding;
2. improve links between communications and fundraising;
3. increase funding support for the regionalisation process; and
4. strengthen our internal capacity for fundraising.

In 2021, we have a total of 8 funders covering both core and programmatic costs. Two grants are concluding at the end of June, one of which will be followed by a new multi-year grant as part of the Global Support Initiative for ICCAs. Out of the four grants concluding at the end of this year, we have a high probability of securing new core grants from at least two of these funders. We also have a high probability of securing a new multi-year grant for core and programmatic costs from a previous aligned funder. The grant from the Oak Foundation will continue until the end of 2023.

The sharp increase in total estimated expenditure from last year to this year, is due to changes to planned activities last year due to the pandemic. Travel funds were reallocated to in-country work or delayed to 2021. There is significant funding already secured for next year and the year after.

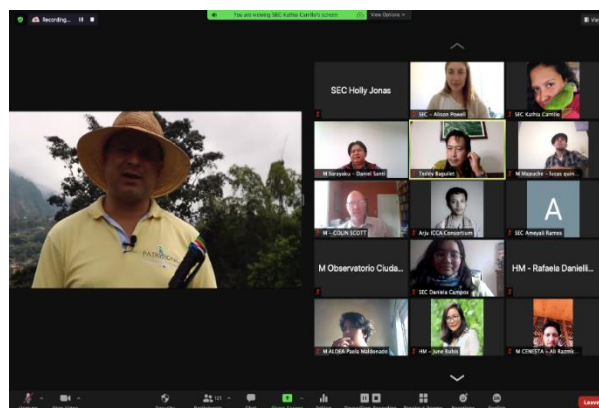
Most funds are for in country and regional activities, primarily under the grants from the Oak Foundation and National Geographic Society. We are investing much more in communications, minimising funding for international travel given the global context, and supporting select national and sub-regional assemblies, where it is safe to do so. All global meetings of the General Assembly, Council, and Secretariat are being held online again this year. Finally, the total personnel expenses have increased from last year because of the increase in work, new team members joining and the need to gradually improve remuneration rates.

Motion to note the 2020/2021 Work Programme report – approved (poll 3)

Member spotlight 2 – RED TICCA Colombia

Please see here for the video in Spanish

My name is Héctor Jaime Vinasco from the Cañamomo Lomaprieta Indigenous Reserve in Colombia and Coordinator of the Colombia ICCA Network, which we established in 2018. Together with several other communities we have received support from the Small Grants Programme. We are currently 20 communities in the network and there is a significant number of other communities who have also expressed interest in joining. Partners such as CEMI, among others, have also shown an interest in working with us. We've been mainly focussing on establishing the structure of our network, so we have a Coordination Committee who is defining our



by-laws and rules of operation. We have also developed a work plan for everything to do with communications, and it is this process that led us to consider positioning our network at a national level. There is a work plan with several components such as: organization, visibility, community work and the strengthening of each of the ICCAs as Territories of Life. We are also developing a peer review mechanism, with the evaluation criteria being set by 6 different communities who requested to be involved in the process and accompanying 26 communities in a peer-to-peer tutoring process. This is a beautiful process of articulating new communities coming into the network. The networking process includes black/afro communities, rural farming communities, Indigenous communities, etc. We invite you to get to know our network.

16:45 The President suspended the General Assembly until Wednesday 9 June 2021



Minutes of Day Two: Wednesday 9 June 2021

14:00 Welcome by the President, revision and adoption of Agenda, as necessary

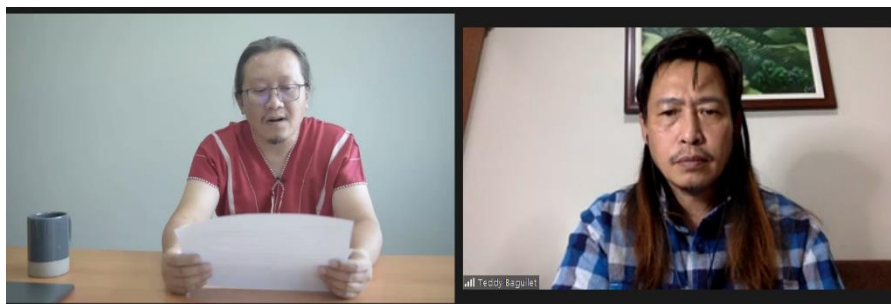
Teddy Baguilat welcomed everyone to Day 2 of the General Assembly and the Agenda for the day was read, no changes were necessary from what was agreed at the start of the General Assembly.

Member spotlight 3 – Salween Peace Park

[Please see here for the video in English](#)

1-Salween Peace Park under attack

There have been countless acts of violence and human right abuses against Indigenous Karen people over more than 70 years. So, the Salween Peace Park, in the heart of *Kawthoolei* (Karen national union) the Karen homeland, is the manifestation of years of committed efforts by



Indigenous Karen communities, leaders and Karen civil society organisations to create an area where peace, self-determination and environmental and cultural preservation is a reality. Communities in the Salween Peace Park came to live on their own ancestral land in peaceful existence with plants, animals and other ethnic peoples and communities in Burma, Myanmar.

However, the Burma's military has never shown an interest or commitment to building peace or demilitarizing Karen land and had long threatened the environmental integrity of the Salween river basin area. The Burmese military have wanted the area that is now the Salween peace park as a site for mining, hydropower and other destructive infrastructures. Since 2010, and especially since 2018, through our Burma's so-called transition to democracy, the military intensified efforts to expand military infrastructure to all Karen territories. They have 45 military basis and roads, while expanding into areas controlled by the Karen National Union (KNU) in explicit violation of the now invalid NCA (Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement).

Murders of civilians last year ignited the outrage and led to several peaceful protests of Karen communities demanding the end of military occupation on their lands and immediate stop of the road construction in their territories. Bomber shelling by the Burma army has been happening almost daily in areas of northern Karen state since December 2020. Shelling has continued and intensified since the 1 February military coup with attacks in Mutraw district; and since March 29th 2021, Karen people have also been terrorized by aerial attacks. Since March 27th, there have been almost 30 aerial attacks, over 15 bombs dropped, along with machine guns fire from airplanes. The Burmese army has also fired almost 600 mortars into villages of farmers, and they have looted villages' rice, money, motorbikes and farming equipment.

Since March 2nd, the bombing shelling has killed at least 14 civilians in Mutraw district alone, injured 28, destroyed 20 houses, 2 schools, and 5 villages rice supplies have been burnt. The Burma's military have also shut villager's vault, Karen food and other aid supplies along the Salween River.

As many as 60 000 people are currently displaced in Karen areas, and over 12 000 heading at the border, with some communities having crossed over into Thailand, others pushed back by the Thai army into Burma, and some sheltering on the Karen side of the Salween river. Currently, the Thai authorities are not allowing any humanitarian organization to access internally displaced people, or refugees, on either side of the border.

2-What does resilience look like during this crisis?

Conflict and oppression are not new for the Karen Indigenous people, it's not new for ethnic nationalities of Burma, and it's not new for Indigenous peoples all over the world. Karen people have been fighting for their rights for over 7 decades, and this is the latest iteration of Burmese military oppression under the recent coup.

Karen community leaders are working hard to try to coordinate information sharing and communication, despite the regular internet blackout as well as organize provisions to IDP (*internally displaced people*) communities.

The Salween Peace Park governance structure has been functioning through all these crises to monitor the situation, support active communication, and provide regular updates to the advocacy team. The Salween Peace Park governance structure has contributed a lot to this crisis response.

Some groups are also working together with local leaders to coordinate a delivery to IDPs along the border. Karen people know how to hide in the forest and use their traditional knowledge to look for food.

For example, many of the ICCAs within the Salween Peace Park serve as a refuge for our Indigenous people seeking safety. These conserved areas are historical places or refuges for Karen people, who survived there during the waves of military violence in the 1990s.

Years of dedicated Indigenous conservation efforts have made these areas well conserved with a wealth of NTFPs (*non-timber forestry products*). Indigenous Karen protection of the ancestral territories of life has also enabled them to offer support and shelter to thousands of people from central Burma involved in the civil disobedience movement who have fled to Karen areas in search of relative sanctuary in the thick forest of *Kawthoolei*.

Some Karen communities have used the Indigenous traditions of taboos to protect themselves, including "*taa bopa doma*", traditional preemptive ceremonies, to protect their community from the Burmese military's attacks. 3 to 6 days after the ceremonies, outsiders are not allowed to enter their territory. Karen communities also carried out this kind of traditional ceremonies earlier in the pandemic.

In some townships, community rice banks, which have been established over the past few years, based on the principle of sharing and caring for people in the community, have been helping people in times of urgent need.

Local authorities at the township level and village level, discuss how and where to distribute these rice reserves.

Community initiatives like these are still providing sustenance for people in this desperate conflict situation. This especially happens in an area deep in *Kawthoolei* where its access from an outside area is very difficult. Indigenous Karen communities are doing their best to cope with the current attacks, but their suffering is very real and thousands of IDP's are in urgent need of food, health care, shelter and clean water.

Villagers, who in recent years have just begun rebuilding their lives, returning to their original communities and laying a foundation for lasting peace, are now fleeing once again, traumatized, into the forest and the mountains.

3-Resist violence and imperialism?

This coup, although it has unleashed terrible violence and tragedies, is a rare opportunity for the oppressed people of Burma, to join together against a common enemy, the Tatmadaw which has ripped too many of Burma's communities and landscapes for generations.

Now is the time for many peoples of Burma to join together and now is the time for Indigenous peoples across the world to recognize our shared struggles against imperialism, state violence, and capitalist exploitation. Finally, I will conclude my presentation with our call for solidarity:

We call on the people and organizations around the world to pressure your governments to impulse a global arms embargo on Burma, and to impulse sanctions on any business giving revenue to the military. We call on the international community to avoid giving any recognition or legitimacy to the military junta, state and ministry's council. We call on the global Indigenous movement and the international community as a whole to recognise the legitimate government of Kawthoolei, the Karen national union, and recognize Kawthoolei as a legitimate self-determined Indigenous territory. We call on the ICCA to continue to support and stand in solidarity with the Indigenous Karen people who are under attack. Without effective community-based governance of the Salween Peace Park, an ecosystem of global conservation importance will be destroyed.

Comments:

Alex Alvarez (Member – FENAMAD) - Can we share the video for consultation with Indigenous peoples' specialists?

Hector Vinasco (Member – RED TICCAs Colombia), **Teddy Baguilat**, **Neville Yapp** (Member – LEAP SPIRAL), **Jailab Rai** (Member – Forest Action Nepal and ICCA Network Nepal), **Áurea García** (Member – Mupan), **Gordon John Thomas** (Member – PACOS Trust), **Dewi Sutejo** (Member – WGII), **Emmanuel Sulle** (Honorary member), **Giovanni Reyes** (Member – KASAPI) and others expressed solidarity with the Karen people.

Council Report about the evolving governance of the ICCA Consortium

Sudeep Jana Thing (Interim Secretary of Council)

[Please see here for the full presentation](#)

Structure and composition of the Council:

- According to the Statutes, the Council has a minimum of 7 and a maximum of 30 members. Currently, the Council is composed of 5 members of the Executive Committee, 19 regional representatives, and 6 thematic representatives. After the last GA, the Council had 24 members out of the maximum of 30.
- 3 standing committees:
 - The Executive Committee - President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chair of the Membership Committee and Chair of the Policy and Programme Committee.
 - Membership Committee with regional and thematic representatives from the rest of the Council.
 - Policy and Programme Committee with regional and thematic representatives from the rest of the Council.
- Council resignations: **Tsiorisoa Mihanta Bakoliarimisa** as Chair of the Policy & Programme Committee, **José Aylwin** as Co-chair of the theme on defending territories of life and **Sudeep Jana Thing** as regional representative for South Asia and Secretary of Council (with effect from 10 June 2021).
- Only about one-quarter of Council members are women and half are Indigenous or from local communities. We are committed to strengthening representation of both in the next round of Council nominations.
- Council meetings occurred on a quarterly basis in December, February and May. The Executive Committee continued its near-monthly meetings from 2020 into 2021, with six meetings since the last GA. These meetings have addressed regular matters such as programme and funding updates, substantive preparations for the General Assembly, as well as deeper conversations about engagement of the Council.

Key achievements of the Council and Executive Committee since the last GA have included:

- Preparing the draft Governance Procedures and Membership Policy & Procedures, including an open consultation process to help build consensus before the GA. The draft Governance Procedures include some changes to Council positions. Implementing the changes will require a transition period to harmonise the actual composition of the Council with the Governance Procedures. The Council will probably call an Extraordinary General Assembly later this year to focus on these changes;
- Preparing revisions to the Statutes to ensure harmonisation with the draft Governance Procedures;
- Developing a definition of consensus and details of how consensus-based decisions will be taken at the online General Assembly;
- Preparing for this GA, including ensuring complete nominations for Secretary and for Vice President;
- Completing the first membership round of 2021; and
- Improving planning and preparation for these meetings, and strengthening administrative and interpretation support from the Secretariat.

Comments and questions:

Teddy Baguilat – thanked Sudeep, José and Mihanta for their excellent work and commitment.

Motion to note the Council Report – approved (poll 4)

Treasurer's Report for 2020

Colin Scott (Treasurer)

[Please see here for the full presentation](#)

- **Total income grew by 13.7% and expenditures grew by 12.1% from 2019 to 2020** (total income of USD \$340,623.59 and total expenditures of \$335,475.86 in 2020; compared with total income of USD \$299,676.70 and total expenditures of \$299,201.91 for 2019).
- The great majority of total income (\$340,623.59) was comprised of restricted-use grants from various of the ICCA Consortium's donors – that is, funds received from third parties by the ICCA Consortium to be used for specified purposes as per conditions attached to the grants.
- Other unrestricted-use income, stemming from Members' contributions and interest on ICCA Consortium funds, amounted to \$951.66.

Grant liabilities as of year-end 2020 have significantly increased due to new grants received but there were limitations on normal activities (due to COVID) during the year. The agreements with funders were all signed and therefore the grants are recognized at full in the liability section of the balance sheet. The funds not yet disbursed from these grants are shown as Grants Receivable in the asset side of the balance sheet.

Status of restricted use grants:

- Activity in the ICCA Consortium's various multi-year project grants is represented in the tables on the right, with total grant amounts in the column on the left, followed by cumulative expenditures to the end of 2019, then 2020 expenditures, and finally balances remaining for each grant at year's end.
- Of restricted-use grant accounts current in 2020, balances remained in The Christensen Fund 2016/2019 (TCF), UNDP GSI – Global ICCA Initiative, Grand Houroum, TCF/SVCF, UNDP GSI, National Geographic, SwedBio 2019-21, TIKVA 2020, ILC, Oak Foundation, and Anonymous 2019-21 grant accounts.

Events affecting the flow of expenditures for 2020:

- A substantial new grant from the Oak Foundation, as well as new grants from National Geographic and from the International Land Coalition, are reflected in the increased overall income and expenditures for 2020. Funds not yet received or used from these grants are reflected in the overall increased assets and liabilities.
- Grant liabilities as of year-end 2020 have significantly increased due to new grants received but there were limitations on normal activities (due to COVID) during the year.
- COVID resulted in significantly reduced percentage of expenditure on travel and meetings in 2020, compared to the previous year. Conversely, there were increased percentages of expenditure on service and other consultancies, as well as communications, publications and publicity.
- The ICCA Consortium issued a sub-grant to a Member organisation for the first time in 2020. This new initiative will be continued in the future as part of the Oak Foundation supported initiative on small scale fisheries.

Motion to note the Treasurer's Report for 2020 proposed by Tafo Mihaavo (Member) seconded by Emmanuel Sulle (Honorary member)

Motion to note the Treasurer's Report for 2020 – approved (poll 5)

Report of Auditor of the Accounts

Marc Foggin (Auditor of Accounts)

[Please see here for the full Report](#)

As ICCA Consortium's Auditor of Accounts, I have reviewed the ICCA Consortium's accounts and read the Treasurer's Report. The independent Audit Reports provided by SIG Fiduciaire, Geneva, Switzerland, covering all the organizational accounts for 2020 have not yet been finalised. I concur with the Treasurer's

report, which in my view provides a clear and accurate presentation of the financial operations and current status of the ICCA Consortium for the year 2020, and from my review of key documents and figures the accounts appear to be in good order.

I especially appreciate the work of Colin Scott and Anne Meier, the ICCA Consortium's treasurer and accountant respectively, for their diligence in keeping the accounts and reporting on the ICCA Consortium's financial operations.

In reviewing the 2020 finances, it is noteworthy that the ICCA Consortium benefits from a diverse support-base, including grants (both unrestricted and restricted-use grants) from International Land Coalition, National Geographic Society, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, Sida, through SwedBio at the Stockholm Resilience Centre, The Christensen Fund, The Oak Foundation, TIKVA Grassroots Empowerment Fund of TIDES Foundation, UNDP GSI, and an anonymous donor. Currently, as indicated with greater detail in the Treasurer's report, total income grew by 13.7% and expenditures grew by 12.1% in 2020, compared to 2019; thus, with assets and liabilities being appropriately balanced.

Expenditures during 2020 enabled (i) attendance of Members and members of the Secretariat in CBD planning meetings; (ii) hosting the ICCA Consortium General Assembly 2020; (iii) the production of various reports and publications, including the Self-strengthening Process guidelines and work on the ICCA Consortium Flagship Report; (iv) direct support to Member organisations with net expenses of USD 43,800 funded by grants from Sida through SwedBio at the Stockholm Resilience Centre, UNDP GEF SGP GSI, and First Peoples Worldwide (Grand Houroum); and more.

In addition to the above financial aspects, I also wish to highlight once again how the work undertaken by the ICCA Consortium and its Members is global in nature and extremely diverse, and especially that its impact extends well beyond what can be suitably captured in financial records or project documents. As such, the foundation of the ICCA Consortium's regional and global activities and achievements continues to be the extraordinary volunteer and semi-volunteer commitment of its Members, Honorary members, and Secretariat for promoting a more appropriate recognition and support of ICCAs – territories of life.

Comments and questions:

Terence Hay-Edie (Honorary member) – acknowledged the detailed reports from Colin and Marc. The GSI will be renewed and provide support to the end of 2023.

Consensus Definition and Process

Colin Scott (member of ExCo)

[Please see here for the full presentation](#)

Since the beginning of the ICCA Consortium, our decision-making has been based on a process of building consensus. We use this approach in everyday organisational and governance matters. Major decisions, such as revisions to our Statutes or new policies and procedures, are taken by the General Assembly, our highest decision-making body. Colin explained the process that will be adopted as part of this and future online GAs to ensure that consensus is reached. Please see the presentation for a full explanation in English, Spanish and French.

Description of consensus

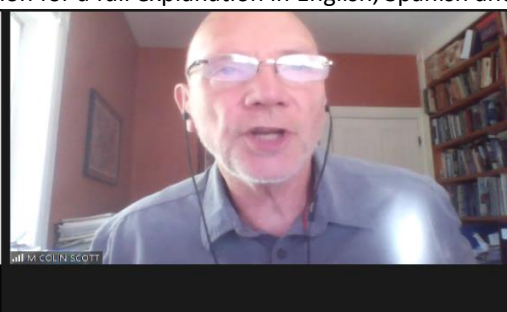
"Consensus has been achieved when there is **general agreement** as well as an **explicit lack of disagreement** about a specific decision. Reasonable measures should have been taken to respond to any objections raised."

Descripción del consenso

"El consenso se logra cuando existe un **acuerdo general**, así como una **ausencia explícita de desacuerdo** sobre una decisión específica. Deben haberse tomado medidas razonables para responder a las objeciones planteadas."

Description du consensus

"Le consensus est atteint lorsqu'il y a un **accord général** ainsi qu'une **absence explicite de désaccord** sur une décision spécifique. Des mesures raisonnables doivent avoir été prises pour répondre à toute objection soulevée."



Key discussion points:

Mina Esteghamat (Member – Zipak) – mentioned two thirds is enough to carry a decision is this the same for an in-person meeting? **Teddy Baguilat** – yes, it is the same and it reflects what is stated in our Statutes.

Neema Pathak Broome (Member – Kalpavriksh) - how do we decide, or who decides, what are 'reasonable measures' to take in the event of objections? **Teddy Baguilat** – before going to a poll, we have a discussion that lasts as long as necessary to allow all issues to surface.

Poll 6 was opened and one person replied that they did not understand the Consensus Definition and Process. **Teddy Baguilat** called for this person to explain their confusion.

Carolina Huenucoy (Member – Comunidad Kawésqar Residente en Puerto Edén) – asked for more explanation and a response to the question: understand that consensus happens by majority, what happens to the minority? **Colin Scott** – acceptance can be complete acceptance, people who do not like the decision but will not block it and people who abstain for whatever reason. If someone wishes to block the decision, they can do so and call for more discussion. Time limits will be set on discussions as appropriate and every effort is made to include as many people as possible in the discussion. The Zoom poll is used to 'check' if we have reached consensus after discussion. The Chair then moves forward according to the results of the poll as explained before. Carolina accepted the explanation and removed her objection.

Teddy – we now have 100% acceptance of the Consensus definition and process – approved (poll 6)

Statutes changes

Teddy Baguilat (President)

[Please see here for full presentation](#)

Proposal to change Article 10 of the Statutes of the ICCA Consortium

No questions

Motion to accept the changes to Article 10 of the Statutes proposed by PAFID (Member) and ALDEA (Member), seconded by Kalpavriksh (Member)

Motion to accept the changes to Article 10 of the Statutes – approved (poll 7)

Proposal to change Article 11 of the Statutes of the ICCA Consortium

Questions and comments:

Giovanni Reyes (Member – KASAPI) – requested clarification on the meaning of 'non-statutory organisational policies'. **Teddy Baguilat** – changes to Statutes have to be decided by a GA. Non-statutory organisational policy can be approved by the Council. **Holly Jonas** – examples are the Gender Policy and the Policy on Defending territories of life and their Defenders. There would be a consultation process with the membership prior to approval by the Council. **Giovanni Reyes** – the wording should be changed to avoid misunderstandings. **Grazia Borrini (Honorary member and Council of Elders)** – everything that is not in the Statutes is NON statutory. **Holly Jonas** – we could add a footnote to the Governance Procedures to clarify this rather than including it in the Statutes. **Giovanni Reyes** – this is exactly what I would like.

Clovis Koagné (Member – FIDEPE) - another example could be the acceptance of a partnership that brings support beyond the budget validated by the General Assembly. The Council would take a decision before the next GA to accept or refuse the collaboration with this partner. It should be for commitments that do not undermine the vision and objectives of the ICCA Consortium.

Khalid Khawaldeh (Member – Dana and Qadisiyah Local Community Cooperative) – usually the Council doesn't decide on policies, it should be the GA – for gender, etc as well. Is this a new change? **Holly Jonas** - it was not specified previously in the Statutes; we are trying to add more clarity and specificity now. **Teddy Baguilat** – the Council can decide on the creation of committees and policies (non-statutory). **Khalid Khawaldeh** – when the GA cannot meet, the Council can make decisions on policy, but this should be ratified by the GA at the first possible opportunity. **Teddy Baguilat** – there are some policies that are in the mandate of the Council. **Holly Jonas** - For reference, the powers of the General Assembly are specified in Article 8 of the Statutes and there are more details available in item 5 of the Governance Procedures. **Teddy Baguilat** – these proposals are the result of lengthy discussions in the Council and the decisions they took. **Khalid Khawaldeh** – any policy proposed by Council must be approved by the next GA. **Holly Jonas** – suggested adding this to the Governance Procedures rather than the Statutes. **Khalid Khawaldeh** accepted this suggestion.

Grazia Borrini - I very much appreciate the opportunity we all had to discuss these matters in writing and in person ahead of the GA. I would suggest to everyone that they should have taken advantage of that opportunity if they have issues.

Motion to accept the changes to Article 11 of the Statutes proposed by CENESTA (Member), seconded by KASAPI (Member) and NTFP-EP (Member)

Motion to accept the changes to Article 11 of the Statutes – approved (poll 8)

[Please see here for the approved Statutes](#)

Governance Procedures

Sudeep Jana Thing (Interim Secretary of Council)

[Please see here for full presentation](#)

Key discussion points:

Teddy Baguilat explained again the lengthy consultation process which included the membership, the Council, the ExCo and the Council of Elders. We need to approve this as a whole so the Consortium can function smoothly. In consideration of Khalid Khawaldeh and Giovanni Reyes's recommendations, we will add footnotes to the Governance Procedures with examples of non-statutory policies and a specification that policies approved by the Council should be put to a subsequent GA for acclamation. Are there any objections?

No objections raised.

Motion to approve the Governance Procedures proposed by CENESTA (Member), seconded by KASAPI (Member)

Motion to approve the Governance Procedures – approved (poll 9)

[Please see here for the approved Governance Procedures](#)

Member spotlight 4 - Sinjajevina

[Please see here for the video in English](#)

Hello, my name is Milan Sekulovic from the civic initiative Save Sinjajevina from Montenegro. We are at the moment fighting for the mountain Sinjajevina. Sinjajevina is the largest mountain area in the Balkans pastures and the second largest in Europe.

Until 2018, we lived on our mountains very peacefully and were forgotten by the State. Unfortunately, we have a problem with the depopulation of the mountain that started in the times of Yugoslavia when we had a big industrialization and a lot of people went from the villages, from the mountains to the cities to work in big factories. So now, we have 250 families who are using Sinjajevina. It is not an empty space; it just has a very low demography.

In 2017, Montenegro joined NATO without a referendum. In 2018, our government started to develop plans to turn Sinjajevina into a military training ground. So, it was very fast. On the first rumour that Sinjajevina would become a military training ground, we started to organise the movement Save Sinjajevina. At the start, it was an unofficial movement composed of farmers and people who grew up in Sinjajevina or connected with Sinjajevina. When the ministry of defence of Montenegro officially confirmed in March 2019 that Sinjajevina would definitely become a military training ground, we started with the first actions. In May 2019 we had a first protest in Sinjajevina, in the *katun* Okrubriak. After that protest, we launched a petition. So we are a very small country, we have only half million of citizens. We expect from our government to listen to people but we have a situation where the government absolutely ignores the petition and in September, they officially declared Sinjajevina as a military training ground. A few days later, on 27 September, the military training ground became official because they had their first exercise on the mountain, but that was very small, without bombs, just the soldiers doing some kind of parade. And we have on Sinjajevina troops from the United States, Austria, Slovenia, Italy, North Macedonia and Montenegro.



Montenegro has a very small army, barely 200 soldiers and we don't need so much space for a military training ground. So, we see in that moment that is the NATO platform and NATO plane. So, we start with connections with organisations from Europe.

We have a very big support from ICCA Consortium and International Land Coalition, Land Rights Now and Common Lands Network. They support us in our movement and give us advice for our next actions. At the same time, we work on the political level, so we connected with European Greens and European Parliament. In February 2019, we had a meeting with a delegation of the European Parliament.

Also, at the same time, we developed a strong connection with European Greens from Austria. Last year, we had our biggest activities. So last summer, Land Rights Now contacted us and offered to launch a European and world campaign about Sinjajevina. So, we started with petitions and a campaign on social networks. We started with all that on the 6th of October, and after 2 days we had news from the government. They said we own the Sinjajevina and you're going to have military exercises, with bombs and a lot of stuff. And that was an alarm. And also, that was a great moment for another campaign, so at all time we've been in connection with our partners.

At the same time, when we started with a campaign in Europe and in the world, our government decided to organise the military exercise in Sinjajevina. They said they would go on the mountain on the 18th October. So, we went on the mountain on the 16th of October and we waited for them. That is how started our biggest fight over these 3 years, because when we went to the mountain, we heard every day the rumours: "militaries are coming", "militaries won't come", and we stayed on the mountain for 51 days. That was a very hard time because it is very cold, because sometimes the temperature went minus 10 degrees Celsius, and we almost had one day of sun, one day of rain, one day of snow and it was a very inhospitable environment, because that is the mountain and winter is here. But that was our first big fight with the State and with the military, and we won. So now is the time for other battles. It is not the end. This is just one battle but the war is still going on. The government still doesn't do anything about the military training ground in Sinjajevina. We expect them to protect Sinjajevina and cancel the military training ground on our mountain. That is our fight now and because of that we need support from Europe and the rest of the world. We think Sinjajevina is a world's heritage, not just Montenegro's heritage. So, we ask the European Union to say no for Montenegro to be part of the EU until they protect Sinjajevina.

Also, this year we've organised new camps, but we expect it is going to be more relaxed, without protests, and we have great hopes that the new government commits to protect Sinjajevina and other ways of life.

16:59 The President suspended the General Assembly until Thursday 10 June 2021



Minutes of Day Three: Thursday 10 June 2021

14:10 Welcome by the President, revision and adoption of Agenda, as necessary

Sudeep Jana Thing stepped in as Chair of the meeting on behalf of Teddy Baguilat who was temporarily delayed.

Sudeep Jana Thing welcomed everyone to Day 3 of the General Assembly and the Agenda for the day was read, no changes were necessary from what was agreed at the start of the General Assembly.

Member spotlight 5 – Democratic Republic of Congo

[Please see here for video in French](#)



Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to participate in our General Assembly. I am Mr. Joseph Itongwa, sub-regional coordinator of the ICCA Consortium for the forest ecosystems of Central Africa. We are happy to participate in this session of the General Assembly of our ICCA Consortium. It is an opportunity to share some updates regarding our movement in our country and, more specifically, updates from the Member ANAPAC in the Democratic Republic of Congo. We participated in a big advocacy effort that brought together Indigenous peoples' rights

organizations, including the African National Alliance for the promotion of Indigenous and community conserved areas and territories. (ANAPAC).

This year was marked by great results: the adoption by the National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Congo of the law on the principles of protection and promotion of the rights of Pygmy Indigenous peoples in the DRC.

This advocacy took a long time: it took 10 years of hard work, mobilization and lobbying for this legal recognition to be effective. The law that was adopted on 7 April 2021 - that is, this year - guarantees many of the rights of Indigenous peoples, particularly civil and political rights - that is, the right to participate in the management of public affairs - and economic, social and cultural rights.

In our movement, what interests us most is that cultural rights are guaranteed. As you know, the ICCAs are rooted in the cultural basis of territories of life. The law also guarantees the right to the environment for Indigenous peoples but, more importantly, the rights to land and natural resources of the traditional territories of Indigenous peoples.

These provisions are really relevant and already provide the basis for a legal foundation for the legal recognition of ICCAs-territories of life. As you know, the legal recognition of ICCAs-territories of life has been a challenge. We are in the process of supporting, promoting and upholding the territories of life of Indigenous peoples - where their livelihoods and cultural sites are located - but these territories were and are still facing diverse threats and among these threats: legal security.

It is true that this represents a step in the right direction. You will even find in certain provisions such as those of Article 50: this article guarantees and even obliges the Congolese State to legally secure the traditional territories of the Indigenous peoples. This already constitutes a basis for drafting specific texts and ministerial orders that will give appropriate recognition to ICCAs-territories of life and their legal security. This is a really relevant step forward. It will make the work with the ICCAs-territories of life and supporting the community custodians of ICCAs-territories of life really more reassuring.

There are still steps to be taken. This is already a step, that of the National Assembly. The law has been sent to the Senate. The Senate will do a second reading before it is promulgated by the Head of State, after the Constitutional Court of our country reviews it. And when the law is promulgated, another mobilization effort will be carried out. That is, the law must be applied and the provisions of the law must lead to regulatory texts and lead to implementation. It must also be supported by programmes, i.e., action programmes to materialize the different provisions.

This means that we thank the ICCA Consortium - we thank it throughout our work - because the ICCA Consortium supported us during the process of advocacy for the law adoption in analysing certain provisions that had to be included and that should be the basis for securing ICCAs-territories of life. And if some of the provisions securing ICCAs-territories of life are in the law, it is really thanks to this advocacy effort that we managed to carry out with the support of the ICCA Consortium last year.

We think that we still need the ICCA Consortium for the continuation of our work because we need to succeed in implementing this law, and in particular we need to ensure its effectiveness and above all its promotion.
Thank you.

Teddy Baguilat took over as Chair of the General Assembly.

Membership Policy and Procedures

Aman Singh (Chair of the Membership Committee)

[Please see here for full presentation](#)

The Membership Policy and Procedures are a new organisational document. They take parts of the current Operational Guidelines and place them in a separate document focused entirely on membership matters. Along with the draft Governance Procedures, the Membership Policy and Procedures will replace the current Operational Guidelines once adopted.

Key discussion points:

Teddy Baguilat - The Membership Policy and Procedures will expand upon and replace the Operational Guidelines. We hope that all Members have read the proposed document. Are there any objections to approving this document?

Neville Yapp (Member – LEAP SPIRAL) – it would be good if we can also maintain a balance in representation between Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

Motion to approve the Membership Policy and Procedures proposed by PACOS Trust (Member), seconded by NCCAF (Member)

Motion to approve the Membership Policy and Procedures – approved (poll 10)

[Please see here for approved Membership Policy and Procedures](#)

Proposed 2021/2022 Action Plan and Budget

Holly Jonas (Global Coordinator)

[Please see here for full presentation](#)

We hold the General Assembly mid-year now to comply with Swiss law and the GA is charged with approving the plan and budget for the following year. This means that we have a slightly awkward timeframe of mid-2021 to mid-2022. We have a detailed action plan for 2021 and we will develop a more detailed plan for 2022 at the end of this year with our full team. The action plan will be reviewed on an ongoing basis within the Secretariat and regular updates will be provided to the ExCo and Council. Within the framework of the action plan, our activities for the coming year will be:

1. **Strengthen our multi-faceted support for the movement for Indigenous peoples' and communities' territories of life.**
 - Support local, national and regional level work through Global Support Initiative for ICCAs and the community fisheries initiative.
 - Continue to support communities who are defending their territories of life, including through a collaborative initiative with Natural Justice in Africa.

- Develop peer learning and exchange events and groups on specific topics.
- 2. Increase our influence and impact in key national and global decision-making processes that affect territories of life and their custodians.**
 - Develop the second phase of the communications and advocacy campaign, building on our new “Territories of Life” report within select countries and internationally.
 - Support national networks and their efforts to influence policy and legal frameworks in select countries – new grants are expected to support this area of work.
 - Strengthen the capacities of Members to engage in the UN Convention on Biological Diversity and the process to develop the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and identify key opportunities in the implementation phase.
 - Develop a position and programme on conservation justice – new grants are expected to support this area of work.
- 3. Improve our organisational governance and management systems in service of our membership.**
 - Review the current strategic plan and develop a new strategic plan by the end of 2021.
 - Implement the newly approved Governance Procedures and Membership Policy and Procedures and develop materials to make them accessible to the membership and the Council.
 - Hold monthly ExCo and quarterly Council meetings with administrative and linguistic support.
 - Finalise policies and procedures for the Secretariat’s management systems by the end of 2021.
 - Hold mid-year and year-end reviews and reflection/planning sessions in the Secretariat.
 - Organise skill-building sessions for the Secretariat - strategic planning, fundraising, communications, etc.
 - Consider developing a fellowship/ leadership programme for Indigenous and community youth.
 - Secure core funding needs for 2022 and 2023 and some financial support for regional assemblies.
- 4. Additionally:**
 - Two membership rounds with welcome events - July-Sept 2021 and Feb-April 2022.
 - Prepare introductory materials for potential and new Members in multiple languages.
 - Prepare a multimedia report on the ICCA Consortium’s history.
 - Improve our organisational and visual identity, hopefully including a new logo.

An overview of the budget for 2021 and 2022:

- Priorities of the fundraising strategy - strengthen core funding; improve links between communications and fundraising; increase funding for the regionalisation process; and strengthen internal capacity for fundraising.
- USD 967,000 is secured for 2021 and more than USD 650,000 is secured for 2022.
- Most funds are dedicated to in-country activities, regional activities and personnel costs for our 24-person Secretariat. There is a big increase in the budget because of reallocation of funding from 2020.
- Total expenditure in 2022 is expected to be similar to 2021. USD 650,000 is secured and we are working to secure further funds for personnel and organisational governance and management (Council meetings, the GA and Secretariat planning meetings).

Key discussion points:

Ashish Kothari (Honorary member and Council of Elders) - COVID 19 has given us an opportunity to advocate for radical changes. Is there anything in the plan on working with other global/regional networks to share lessons and learning? **Holly Jonas** - yes, it’s in the more detailed version and is an important aspect of our future work.

Jailab Rai (Member – Forest Action Nepal) - is there a plan for youth capacity building? **Holly Jonas** – we want to support and extend the work of the youth group (chaired by Josefa Tauli and Lucas Quintupuray), especially for young leaders from Indigenous peoples and local communities.

Paola Maldonado (Member – ALDEA) - we have the challenge of using the power of the ICCA Consortium at international level to strengthen regional and national processes.

Teddy Baguilat – the Council must provide advice and strategic direction in the development of a new strategy.

Mina Esteghamat (Member – ZIPAK) – do we have a vision for numbers of recognised ICCAs-territories of life (maybe on the IUCN Green List) to help when dealing with governments? **Holly Jonas** – the Green List may not be appropriate in all contexts. **Faisal Moola (Honorary member)** – many IPCAs in Canada have been established by Indigenous Peoples irrespective of whether they are recognized or not by the government of Canada.

Alifereti Tawake (Member - LMMA International) - it would be great to have an ICCA Consortium position well registered at the UN Ocean Conference later this year.

Motion to approve the 2021 Action Plan and Budget proposed by Kalpavriksh (Member), seconded by NCCAF (Member) and Forest Action Nepal (Member)

Motion to approve the 2021 Action Plan and Budget – approved (poll 11)

Appointment of the Auditor of Accounts for the coming year

Teddy Baguilat (President)

The Auditor of Accounts is one of the three ‘organs’ of the Association, in addition to the General Assembly and Council. According to the Statutes, *“the Auditor of Accounts shall check the operating and annual accounts prepared by the Council and present a written report to the General Assembly. The Auditor of Accounts may also act as Ombudsperson”*. The role of the Ombudsperson is detailed in our new Governance Procedures and is to support the Association in a voluntary capacity by serving as a fair and neutral arbiter when dealing with complaints or grievances. The term is for one year at a time. I would like to acknowledge Marc Foggin’s contribution as Auditor of Accounts and Ombudsperson since the General Assembly at the end of 2019. We are very grateful for the work he has done. He has kindly agreed to remain as Auditor of Accounts and Ombudsperson for the coming year.

Any objections?

None

Motion to appoint Marc Foggin as Auditor of Accounts proposed by KRAPAVIS (Member), seconded by KASAPI (Member) and Forest Action Nepal (Member) and Wumweri Ghodu (Member)

Motion to appoint Marc Foggin as Auditor of Accounts – approved (poll 12)

Election of new members of Council

The agreed process for Council elections as part of the General Assembly is:

- The title of vacant position is given;
- Biography(ies) for the nominee(s) is (are) read out to the General Assembly;
- The nominee(s) is (are) asked to introduce themselves;
- Questions for the nominee(s) are invited from the Members present;
- The nominee(s) leaves the room [in case of an online General Assembly, the nominee(s) will be moved to the virtual waiting room];
- A discussion of the nominee(s) is held in private;
- The nominee(s) is (are) invited back to the room to hear the decision of the General Assembly; and
- The decision is recorded in the official minutes of the General Assembly, with details of the Zoom poll also recorded (number of ‘yes’ and number of poll participants to reach quorum).

Teddy Baguilat - the Council called for and received nominations for two positions: Vice President, and Secretary.

Both are key leadership positions in the Executive Committee and broader Council. We are very pleased to have received strong nominations of two women for these roles, one from Africa and one from Latin America.

1. **Nomination of Secretary of Council: Sara Oliveros López**

The Secretary plays an important role in ensuring the effective functioning of the Executive Committee and Council and helping with preparations for the General Assembly. As with all of our Council positions, the Secretary is a voluntary position and is elected by the General Assembly for a period of three years. Our nominee is Sara Oliveros López from Mexico.

Sara Oliveros López's biography was read out. [Please see here for biography.](#)

Sara Oliveros López – thank you to everyone. Very happy speaking from Yucatan where I work as part of the ICCA Consortium with Albert Chan Dzul in the Mesoamerica region. Happy to exchange knowledge with other Members.

Questions for the nominee:

Giovanni Reyes (Member – KASAPI) – what is Sara's view on the development of consensus? **Sara Oliveros** – consensus is to reach agreement together with all the Members, to resolve any conflicts or questions. It is important to work on the basis of consensus and to work to build it.

Yolanda López-Maldonado (Honorary member) – there is very little support for the Indigenous way of thinking so the links you are building are great.

José Martial (Member – Ndima-Kali) - do you have time to devote to the ICCA Consortium? **Sara Oliveros** – my organisation took a collective decision to take this on so I have their support and they will back me up.

Aman Singh (Member – KRAPAVIS) – how comfortable are you in the three languages of the ICCA Consortium?

Sara Oliveros – I understand a little English. Spanish is my native language and I want to learn more about communicating in any language. **Teddy Baguilat** – most meetings have wonderful interpreters so we are all able to communicate.

A private discussion of the nominee was held while the nominee waited in the Zoom waiting room.

Teddy Baguilat - does anyone have any objections to this appointment? No objections.

Motion to elect Sara Oliveros López as Secretary of Council proposed by KASAPI (Member), seconded by KRAPAVIS (Member) and Thora Amend (Honorary member)

Motion to elect Sara Oliveros López as Secretary of Council – approved (poll 13)

2. **Nomination of Vice President of the ICCA Consortium: Patricia Mupeta-Muyamwa**

This is a new role that was approved at the 2020 General Assembly. The Vice President plays an important support role for the President and overall direction and guidance of the Council and Executive Committee and will step in as interim President in the event that the President cannot fulfil his or her duties. As with all of our Council positions, the Vice President is a voluntary position and is elected by the General Assembly for a period of three years. Our nominee is Patricia Mupeta-Muyamwa from Zambia.

Patricia Mupeta-Muyamwa's biography was read out. [Please see here for biography.](#)

Patricia Mupeta-Muyamwa – greetings from Zambia. It grounds me to tap into the energy of my ICCA Consortium family. I have a strong and lasting connection to ICCAs-territories of life and have seen how the ICCA Consortium has grown over the last 4 years. The leadership changes and working as part of the ExCo have given me a great understanding of the work of the ICCA Consortium. Thanks to the Secretariat for all the support they offer. Now is a good opportunity for me to take on a new role in the ICCA Consortium. I will be able to lean on the elders such as Grazia to support me. I believe in servant leadership; the core and root of the ICCA Consortium is the membership.

Recognition of the ICCA Consortium is growing; the membership is strong and there are good fundraising foundations. I am a systems thinker and leader, good resource mobiliser, resourceful and would like to strengthen strategic partnerships.

Questions for the nominee:

Giovanni Reyes (Member – KASAPI) – there are Indigenous peoples in Africa who are not recognised by governments as Indigenous, so they are identified as local communities. What is your view and experience on this?

Patricia Mupeta-Muyamwa – in Africa the definition of Indigenous peoples varies depending on the context. Here in Eastern and Southern Africa it is helpful to frame the discussions around Indigenous peoples and local communities to include all. Whether or not they are recognised by governments, they are recognised at the international level as Indigenous peoples with Indigenous peoples’ rights. This is our work to empower and support the struggle. **Milka Chepkorir** (Secretariat) - In Kenya, they call us “minority and marginalised communities”, but the courts have ruled on our being Indigenous peoples according to the ILO.

Vololoniaina Rasoarimanana (Honorary member) – do you have time to take on the position of Vice President?

Patricia Mupeta-Muyamwa – I spoke to the Secretariat about this prior to accepting.

Nguyen Trinh Le (Member – PanNature) - will there be any conflict of interest between your work with Nature Conservancy and ICCA Consortium? **Patricia Mupeta-Muyamwa** – I have helped TNC develop an Indigenous peoples’ programme and they are learning how to partner better with Indigenous peoples and local communities. I don’t see this as a conflict, but as an opportunity for collaboration. I see myself as a bridge.

Jailab Rai (Member – Forest Action Nepal) – a large number of Indigenous peoples’ traditions and practices that could contribute to nature-culture conservation are declining due to state policies. How do you think this issue should be tackled? **Patricia Mupeta-Muyamwa** – we need to elevate the strength of our membership and the demonstrations of why ICCAs-territories of life are important for protecting nature, culture and people and we need to advocate for recognition at state level. In Zambia, we struggled for a long time against very old legislation; this was made harder by a lack of documented evidence of the existence of ICCAs-territories of life.

Clovis Koagné (Member – Fidepe) - will you be able to make regional and country visits to provide institutional support to Member organisations and custodians of ICCAs-territories of life? **Patricia Mupeta-Muyamwa** – not at the moment because of COVID but in the future this could be possible, depending on financial and Secretariat support. The decentralisation process should build stronger regions to support Member organisations.

A private discussion of the nominee was held while the nominee waited in the Zoom waiting room.

Teddy Baguilat - does anyone have any objections to this appointment? No objections.

Motion to elect Patricia Mupeta-Muyamwa as Vice President of the ICCA Consortium proposed by Emmanuel Sulle (Honorary member), seconded by Natural Justice (Member)

Motion to elect Patricia Mupeta-Muyamwa as Vice President of the ICCA Consortium – approved (poll 14)

Teddy Baguilat thanked the following, outgoing members of Council for their contributions:

Tsiorisoa Mihanta Bakoliarimisa

Sudeep Jana Thing

José Aylwin

Member spotlight 6 – ITW-SDA

[Please see here for the video in English](#)

Taiwan Self-Determination - *akokey! sira pakakmaen so ovey*, (Good day! My Dear Friends,)

The highest vision for us on self-determination comes from the deepest insight that the collective conscience of the Taiwanese should be liberated from the entangling conflicts between the colonizing settler peoples and the colonized Indigenous peoples that has tortured and distorted all our humanity in common.

Seeking for an equitable and sustainable Taiwan, we launched the mission to "liberate the colonial relationship and initiate an inclusive new nation-building together" in 2019. It's based on the Indigenous ecological wisdom to heal the trauma of colonization and exploitation that have caused pervasive insanity, malfunction and anomaly besides corruption and destruction on this land and its peoples. Let's conserve the animistic territories of life for all beings around us, adhering to the ultimate value of the trinity of language, cultural and biological diversity, and jointly implementing a new model of governance on the grounds of embeddedness and connectedness.



At the time when the National Human Rights Commission was established on 1st August 2020, the Indigenous Taiwan Self-Determination Alliance requested the government to implement the connotation of Article 1 into both the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and in Economic, Social and Cultural Rights which is on the rights of self-determination for all every people. In accordance with the "Act to Implement the Two International Covenants on Human Rights" announced April 2009 in Taiwan, the government should deal proactively with the four conditions of liberating the colonial relationship which are "recovering Indigenous sovereignty, returning traditional territories, compensating for historical damages, and offering necessary assistance to restore the disturbed tribal communities" at their full scale and scope, and work together on the consensus vision of reconciliation and restoration.

Appealing on the grounds of recognizing the natural sovereignty of the Indigenous peoples, we would collaborate with the old and new Chinese immigrants and those latest residents who came from Southeast Asia to rebuild an identity of original Taiwan and to restore the homeland connectedness for all in the process of a sustainable self-determination.

A delegation of Indigenous Taiwanese has visited the Presidential Office on 14th September 2020 to declare its public statement for negotiating Decolonization, Self-Determination and Inclusive New Nation-Building Together. We were politely received by the staffs and guards of the President without a formal response from her, who has issued a formal apology to Indigenous Peoples in 2016. Just like a voice crying in the wilderness, it seems that the Indigenous peoples are always going far beyond the mainstream politicians.

As a structural basis and strength preparations for our visionary initiative, we have established joint declarations of traditional territories with mutual recognition of natural sovereignty among tribal communities and promoted the arrangement of ethnic and regional confederacy treaty organizations among Indigenous peoples. We are further proposing to organize the United Assembly of Indigenous Peoples' Confederacy Councils to build up Indigenous political entities and develop tribal community self-governance capacity.

Moving forward, we are open to exchange and collaborate with our international partners on the discourse and praxis of critical subjects below:

- The natural sovereignty of tribal communities existed before any state regimes and is based on maintaining the rights of nature
- Indigenous decolonization countering the 'myth' of a unified nation-state will evolve into a pluralistic framework for natural and cultural diversity and complexity
- Sustainable self-determination and Inclusive new nation-building for conserving the trinity of language, cultural and biological diversity

- Indigenous rights and customary institutions are based only on a tribal community connected to and embedded in their inter-species habitats cross-generations, the territories of life

With Professor Jeff Corntassel, the Cherokee scholar, proposed the concept of sustainable self-determination. We are currently preparing to call a virtual workshop series on “Indigenous decolonization and sustainable self-determination” starting with some IPOs that are in the same struggle and have been contacted and connected. It would be great to hold events for deeper mutual learning and feasible solidarity collaboration on their tough campaigns and remarkable deeds and feats.

We look forward to reflecting and envisioning with the diverse Indigenous insights and visions on the following basic questions for action:

- How can the Indigenous communities keep or restore their traditional living space and spiritual territories:
 - Alongside and beyond the state apparatus, and
 - Within and without the global market system
- Does our embeddedness and connectedness, that is deep-rooted in the natural environment and inter-species habitats, make our ultimate resilience or become our fundamental vulnerability? Let's rethink it from our living tradition of adaptation and innovation that has gone through radical changes across generations and throughout millennia.

onotan do voko no sawalan nio. (Follow the flow of your irrigation channel!) ayoy!

16:35 President closed the General Assembly

Teddy Baguilat - Now that the Governance Procedures have been approved, the Council will undergo a transition period in order to harmonise its composition with what is set out in the Procedures. In order to do so, we will likely call an Extraordinary General Assembly, or EGA, in October or November this year, to specifically focus on Council elections and ensure we start 2022 with a strong and representative Council. We encourage Members in all regions to organise regional assemblies in the next few months and to nominate suitable representatives for regional and thematic positions in the global Council. Keep an eye out for more information soon.

Thank you to Members, Honorary members, members of the Council and Secretariat and observers for taking part in the General Assembly. Special thanks to everyone who helped us communicate with each other by translating key documents and providing simultaneous interpretation during the GA. This includes Camila Miranda, Daniela Cabascango, Aquilas Koko Ngomo, Rachel Babin, Antoine Scherer, Mathilde Craker, Karen Armas, Francine Hache and Ulrich Douo.

With that, I would like to formally close the 17th General Assembly of the ICCA Consortium.

[Please see here for the highlights of the 17th General Assembly.](#)

Minutes signed by President and Programme Manager (as compiler of Minutes).

Teodoro B. Baguilat Jr.,
President, ICCA Consortium

Sarah Ryder
Programme Manager, ICCA Consortium