IUCN WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS 2025 MOTIONS PROCESS
The Online Discussion of Motions

1) INTRODUCTION

This document presents the process for the online discussion of motions and explains the electronic system step-by-step, providing detailed information on how to use the different functionalities and features.

The online discussion of motions will take place on the Congress website from 23 April to 23 June 2025. Figure 1 shows how the discussion fits into the broader motions process.

Figure 1: Overview of the motions process

2) THE ONLINE DISCUSSION OF MOTIONS IN A NUTSHELL

All motions will be discussed online, prior to the Congress, during a period of two months, enabling all IUCN Members to participate in the process. The online discussion will take place from 23 April to 23 June on the Congress website.

Who can participate?

Members of all categories can voice their support for motions, express concerns, debate pros and cons, and submit amendments using this system, just as they would during the Members' Assembly. Members will also be invited to express their intention to support the implementation of motions, should they be adopted, either financially or in-kind.

Commission members, representatives of recognised **National and Regional Committees** and members of the **Secretariat** may also take part in the online discussion of motions in a technical advisory and support capacity as described in Figure 2 (Rule 62*bis*).

Figure 2: Roles in the online discussion

IUCN Constituent	Role in Online Discussion
Members	Members vote on motions, and thus they need to feel comfortable with the text of motions. They can comment on any part of the motion, propose edits, support implementation, and endorse (like) edits proposed by other participants with which they agree.
Representatives of National Committees **Commission members** **Secretariat staff** **Council**	May take part in the online discussion of motions in an advisory and support capacity only. They can make general comments to provide technical advice and support the discussion. Councillors, who have been assigned as focal points for Council-sponsored motions, can be called to comment on specific parts of these motions.
Facilitator	They steer the discussions fairly and transparently, producing a text that enjoys broad support. They make announcements, comment, propose edits, and publish revisions.

The electronic discussion will be facilitated by qualified individuals appointed by the Motions Working Group (MWG). They will help to ensure a transparent process and contribute to achieving a level of convergence on contentious issues sufficient for the motions to be considered ready for the MWG to submit them to an electronic vote, with or without amendments.

The online discussion process

The online discussion of each motion will be organised in two "readings" (or periods of discussion), as per Figure 3 below. It is important that Members participate throughout the discussion period and not only in the final days or weeks, to allow for a genuine exchange of views.

The first reading will last three weeks, from 23 April to 14 May, and will focus on the version of the motion as published in March/April. At this stage, Members can voice their general comments about the motion, propose specific edits to its text, as well as comment on its proposed resourcing and implementation strategy. After these three weeks, the Facilitator will have one week to incorporate the comments and proposed edits received during the first reading and present a revised motion text, which will then be the focus of the second reading. All comments and proposed edits should then focus on the new text. Reopening

issues where consensus was reached during the first reading is strongly discouraged.

The second reading will run for three and a half weeks, from 21 May to 16 June. After the second reading, the Facilitator will incorporate the additional comments and changes proposed in an effort to arrive at a text with which Members participating in the discussion feel comfortable. The Facilitator will then publish a final revision of the text and forward it to the MWG, summarising the main elements and status of the discussion.

The MWG will then decide whether to:

1) Submit the motion to an electronic vote as amended during the online discussion; or
2) Refer the motion to the Members' Assembly for further debate and vote.

Figure 3: Online discussion schedule 11 December 2019 – 11 March 2020

23 April – 14 May	14 – 21 May	21 May – 16 June	16 – 23 June
First reading period (3 weeks)	**Facilitator revision (1 week)**	**Second reading period (3.5 weeks)**	**Facilitator revision (1 week)**
Comments open	*No comments*	*Comments open*	*No comments*

Note that comments will be disabled at 13:00 UTC/GMT on the final day of each reading, and will remain disabled during the revision weeks.

The primary way for Members to voice their opinion on a motion or to propose textual changes is by submitting written comments directly via the online system. However, in order to strive towards consensus on the text, Facilitators can suggest (using the commenting tool in the system) at any time during the online discussion to have consultations with representatives of Member organisations through videoconference or other means. These consultations will not be carried out using the online motions system, but Facilitators will always keep Members informed when these take place through a comment in the system. The Facilitator will ensure that any discussion that may take place outside the online discussion platform (e.g. agreed video calls with a subset of Members) is reported back to the online discussion in a timely manner to ensure transparency.

3) STEP-BY-STEP AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

A.   How do I access the online discussion of motions?

Members can access the online discussion by logging in to the Congress website, clicking on the "Exercise member rights" tab and then the "View and discuss motions" button. Then they can click on the title of any motion to access the discussion for that specific motion.

To ensure equitable participation for all IUCN Members, any staff of a Member may intervene on its behalf. The person should log in with their own IUCN account.
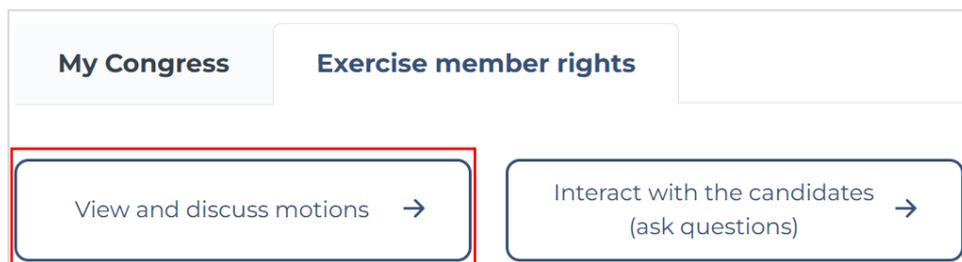
The online discussion display begins with the motion number and the title in the three languages. To the right, the working language and the original submission language are indicated. Below, in the grey boxes, are the motion texts, including the title, preamble, and operative text, available to be downloaded in Word of PDF format. Note that the version number is indicated in the filename, starting with V001, followed by V002, V003, etc.

Below that is an expandable "more information" section, which contains the explanatory memorandum (if submitted), the list of co-sponsors, the geographical scope, and some keywords. Finally, there is a link (or links) to the original motion submission form(s). This has been included to allow participants to see the implementation measures – including the budget – proposed by the proponent, and to support or comment on them.

Below the motion is the comments section.

It includes the list of comments in reverse chronological order, starting with any announcement posted by the Facilitator. The comments provide information about the constituent, the time and date of the comment, the type of comment, which section it pertains to, and how many "likes" it has (see below). There are also buttons to add a comment, or to filter the comments based on the information provided by the discussants.

IUCN World Conservation Congress
Abu Dhabi 2025

Motion 001

View Edit Delete Revisions

English title
Improving tree planting practices – Planting the right tree in the right place for the right purpose

Titre en français
Improving tree planting practices – Planting the right tree in the right place for the right purpose

Título en español
Improving tree planting practices – Planting the right tree in the right place for the right purpose

Status
Published

Submission language
English

Working language
English

English files
📄 001-V001-Improving tree planting practices-EN.pdf 2025-03-26 16:29
📄 001-V001-Improving tree planting practices-EN.docx 2025-03-26 16:30

Fichiers en français
No files yet

Archivos en español
No files yet

More information ⌄

Motion comments (13)

Add a comment

Comment type
- Any -

IUCN constituents
- Any -

IUCN constituent type
- Any -

Facilitator's comment
- Any -

Section
- Any -

Paragraph number
- Any -

Apply

Facilitator
16/04/2025 - 15:02

Comment > The motion in general

Welcome to the online discussion of motion 000. I will be your facilitator. Please feel free to add your comments in any of the IUCN languages. To propose amendment, please indicated text you wish to **add in bold** and remove with strikethrough.

Thank you.

↩ Reply   0 likes   Like

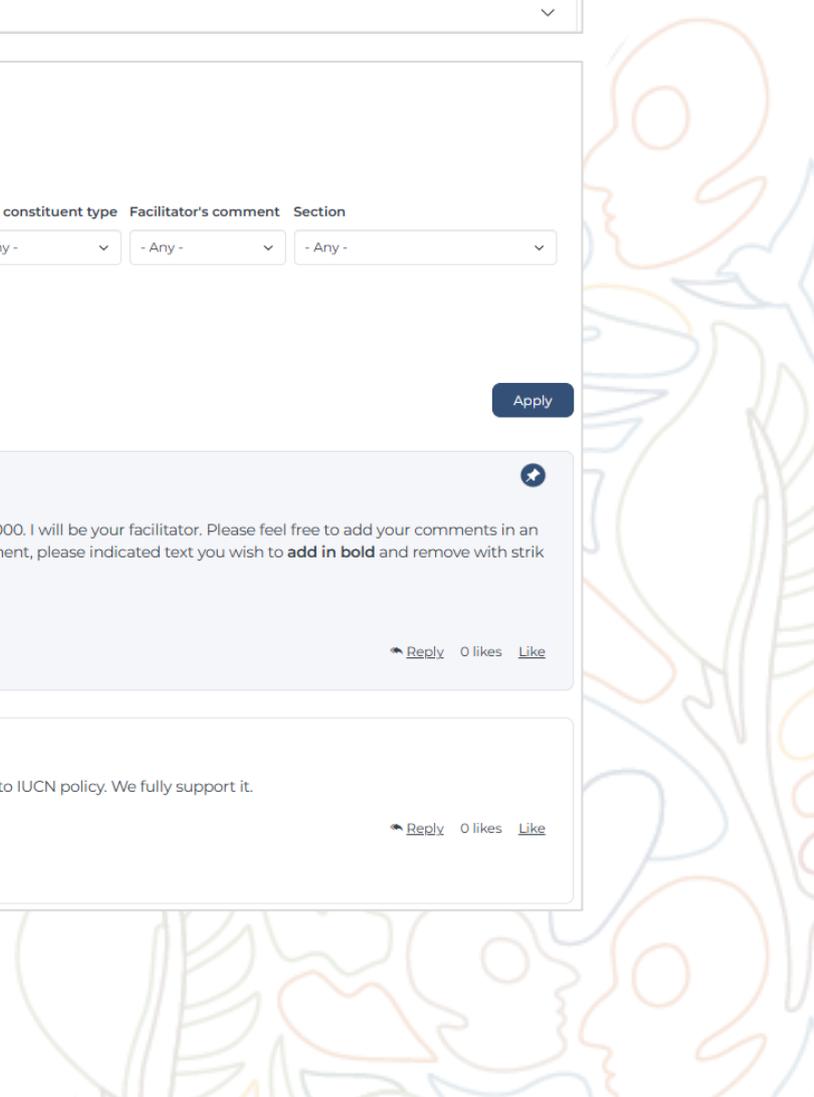**Jan PLESNIK**

IUCN Member
Agentura ochrany prirody a krajiny CR (Czech Republic)

16/04/2025 - 15:14

Comment > The motion in general

This motion makes an excellent contribution to IUCN policy. We fully support it.

↩ Reply   0 likes   Like

B. How do I subscribe to a motion?

Users may be interested in following the discussions of all motions, but it is also possible to subscribe to those in which they are most interested. To do so, click on the "Subscribe to this discussion" link next to the title of the motion, on the list of titles on the main motions dashboard. By subscribing to a discussion, users will receive automated email notifications each time a new comment is posted on that motion. Users can unsubscribe at any time by clicking on the same button.

C. Which elements of a motion can be discussed?

The elements of a motion that may be discussed or negotiated are the title, the motion in general, the preamble, the operative paragraphs, and the annex (if relevant). The explanatory memorandum may not be discussed or negotiated as this simply contains additional information the sponsors deemed important to share at submission.

While not subject to negotiation per se, Members are encouraged to review and discuss the implementation information, including the indicative budget, which was provided by proponents at submission. In case Members believe that the resources cited will be insufficient, or would like to pledge a contribution towards implementation, financial or in-kind, they should state so during the discussion using the "support implementation" comment feature.

D. What is the working language of the discussion of a motion?

The working language of a motion is defined by the Facilitator at the beginning of the discussion and in most cases will be the language in which the motion was submitted. Any revision of the motion during the online discussion will be published in the working language only. Comments may be posted in any one of IUCN's three official languages (English, French, and Spanish).

E. How to translate comments into your preferred language?

Most internet browsers (e.g. Chrome or Edge) will allow you to translate the content of the webpage into the language of your choice. You can often find this button either to the right of the URL, or by right clicking on the page and selecting the translate option from the menu.

F. How do I know if I am looking at the latest version of the motion?

To be sure that you are looking at the latest version of the motion, please check that you have downloaded the most recent document listed in the grey boxes in

the working language. Changes made during the online discussion will not be reflected in the non-working language versions. These will only be updated after the discussion, in time for the publication of motions on 9 July.

G. How do I add a comment?

The core of the online discussion is the comments section. To post a comment, please click the "Add a comment" button at the top or bottom of the comments section. This will direct you to a new page that shows a comment field.

In the light grey box, please select the "IUCN constituent" you are making this comment on behalf of from the dropdown menu (this only shows the constituents to which you are connected).

Next, you need to specify what type of comment you are making. For example, is it a general comment, a proposal of a specific edit to the text, or a statement of implementation support?

IUCN constituent *

- Select a value -   ⌄

On behalf of which Constituent are you commenting on this motion?

Section ⓘ *

- Select a value -   ⌄

Comment *

Please post your comment here. If you are proposing specific edits to the text, please use the formatting option "bold" to indicate additions and "strike through" to show words you want deleted.

| **B** U *I* S̶ ☰ ⌄ | 𝒪 | ⦂≡ ⦂≡ ⌄ | 66 🖼 | Paragraph ⌄ | Styles ⌄ | <> | ⟩ Source |

Send   Preview

In the Section field, please specify to which section of the motion your comment relates: "the title", "the motion in general", "a specific preambular paragraph", a "specific operative paragraph", or "the annex". Please select the one most relevant to your comment. If you are commenting on a specific paragraph (preambular or operative) you will be prompted to specify the paragraph number. This is quite straightforward for the operative section as the paragraphs are numbered. However, if you are choosing a specific preambular paragraph, please count the number of paragraphs from the top.

Once you have classified your comment, you can enter it in the text field (max. 1,200 characters including spaces). When you are finished, at the bottom, you may either "Preview" your comment, or click "Send" to post it. Once it has been posted, it is no longer possible to edit it.

H.   How do I propose specific edits to the text of the motion? (Members only)

In order to propose a specific edit to the text, please proceed as above, choosing "Propose amendment" in the "Comment type" section.

To indicate your specific edits in the text field, copy-paste the relevant paragraph and indicate any additions to the text in **bold** and any deletions using ~~strikethrough~~. This will make it easier for the other participants and the Facilitator to understand exactly what you are proposing.

For example: "This guidance note was written for the online discussion of motions for the World Conservation Congress ~~2020~~ **2025** in ~~Marseille, France~~ **Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates**."

I.   What is envisioned by the "support implementation" comment field? (Members only)

To increase the impact of motions, when they become Resolutions and Recommendations, Members are encouraged to discuss resourcing and implementation measures during the online discussion. This builds on the information provided by proponents during the submission phase. Members can pledge resources, suggest coordination measures or opportunities for synergies with other ongoing or upcoming initiatives, or highlight challenges for future discussions.

J.   Where can I find all comments?

All comments posted can be found at the bottom of the motion page in the "Motion comments" section.

K. Can I respond directly to a comment made?

Yes. To the right of the comment, you will see a "Reply" link. Clicking on this link will bring you to a page where you can comment (exactly as described above). This comment will be displayed just below the original comment, and indented on the left. This shows other participants, and the Facilitator, that it is intended as a response.

Aside from posting a response, if you support a comment, you can "like" it, using the link on the righthand side of the comment box. Clicking on this will register a "like" for the comment. You can click again to "un-like" in case you have made a mistake, or changed your mind.

Jan PLESNIK	*Comment > The motion in general*
IUCN Member Agentura ochrany prirody a krajiny CR (Czech Republic)	Test comment.
23/04/2025 - 11:05	Reply 0 likes Like

L. How do I compare different versions of the motion?

As the motions have been published in Word and PDF, the Congress website is not able to automatically provide comparisons. You are therefore encouraged to download the two versions of the motion you wish to compare in Word. In Word, you may select "Compare" in the "Review" tab, and then select the "original document" and the "revised document" and click "OK". Word will then produce a document that shows all amendments in track change.

M. How do I filter comments?

All users that post a comment must answer a series of guiding questions to classify their comment. This classification enables other participants and the Facilitator to screen comments to get an overview of the status of the discussion.

To filter comments, navigate to the top of the comments section. Just underneath the "Add a comment" button, you can filter the comments made by a specific constituent, type of constituent, the Facilitator, or comments made to a specific section of the motion, such as to the title or to a specific operative paragraph. You may also decide to only show comments that propose specific edits to the text.

4) FUTURE GUIDANCE NOTES

The next guidance note will focus on the electronic vote, and will be made available in July or August.

For any questions related to the motions process please contact motions@iucn.org.