

Letter of commendation for Chris Mahon's candidacy as IUCN Councillor for the West Europe Region

08 September 2025

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Scottish Government, the UK's only 'Subnational' Member of IUCN, I am pleased to endorse the candidacy of Chris Mahon as one of the three 'Councillor Elected from the Regions' positions available for the West Europe region, for him to play his part in the global IUCN Council for the next four years, 2026-29.

Chris has had a long career in nature conservation, operating in high level roles in the public, private and voluntary sectors at all levels, from local to international. He continues his current role as Chief Executive of the IUCN National Committee UK, and with several ICUN Member Committee networks which he has developed over the past 17 years, demonstrating his continued commitment to IUCN.

Chris's experience, abilities, and commitment to nature conservation clearly make him in an ideal candidate for election as an IUCN Councilor for the West Europe region.

I hope you will join me in supporting Chris Mahon's candidacy in the elections at the Members Assembly of the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Abu Dhabi in October this year.

Yours sincerely,



Donald Henderson
Deputy Director, Nature
Environment and Forestry Directorate
The Scottish Government