



# CIC Resolution on Advancing the Wildlife Economy through Sustainable Use

*Adopted at the 72nd CIC General Assembly, Vienna, April 2026*

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**RECOGNISING** the global importance of **wildlife economies** as a key mechanism to conserve biodiversity while delivering tangible benefits to people, particularly in rural areas;

**RECALLING** international commitments under the **Convention on Biological Diversity**, including the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and its emphasis on the **sustainable use, management and trade of wild species** ;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** that sustainable use, including **regulated hunting**, contributes directly to habitat conservation, species management and local livelihoods;

**NOTING** that billions of people depend on wildlife resources for food, income and cultural identity, and that the erosion of wildlife-based economies undermines both conservation and human well-being;

**RECOGNISING FURTHER** that well-functioning wildlife economies require **secure rights, good governance, science-based management and market access**;

**CONCERNED** by increasing pressures from **blanket prohibitions, trade restrictions and policy fragmentation**, which risk undermining conservation incentives;

**BUILDING ON** the long-standing principles of the CIC promoting **conservation through sustainable use** since 1930;

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## The CIC General Assembly:

### 1. AFFIRMS

that the **wildlife economy is a cornerstone of effective conservation**, linking biodiversity, livelihoods and responsible use;

### 2. CALLS UPON

governments to:

- recognise and integrate **wildlife-based economies** into national conservation and rural development strategies;
- ensure **science-based, adaptive management** of wildlife populations;
- support **legal, sustainable and transparent use and trade** of wild species;

### 3. URGES

international institutions and policymakers to:

- avoid **non-evidence-based restrictions** that undermine conservation outcomes;
- emphasize the role of **regulated hunting** as a legitimate and effective conservation tool;
- promote **policy coherence** across biodiversity, trade and rural development frameworks;

### 4. ENCOURAGES

the private sector and conservation partners to:

- invest in **wildlife-based enterprises** that deliver measurable conservation outcomes;
- support **community-based conservation models** and benefit-sharing mechanisms;
- strengthen value chains linked to **sustainably sourced wildlife resources**;

### 5. REQUESTS

the CIC Secretariat, Divisions and Members to:

- develop a **CIC Wildlife Economy Framework**, including best practices, case studies and data;
- strengthen advocacy at international fora including **CBD, CITES and IUCN**;
- expand partnerships supporting **evidence-based conservation through sustainable use**;

### 6. CALLS FOR

increased financial support for:

- **wildlife management systems**,
- **local community engagement**,
- and **capacity building** to ensure long-term sustainability of wildlife economies;

## CONCLUSION

The CIC reiterates that **conservation and use are not opposing concepts**, but mutually reinforcing pillars. A strong wildlife economy ensures that wildlife retains its **ecological, cultural and economic value**, securing its future for generations to come.