



Government of India  
Ministry of Environment and Forests  
(Wildlife Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road  
New Delhi-110003

F. No. 4-38/2010 WL  
Dated: 25<sup>th</sup> October 2011

To  
The Members  
Steering Committee on  
Red Listing of species in India

Sub: Minutes of meeting held in New Delhi on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2011 to discuss the Red Listing process in India.

Sir,

Kindly find enclosed a copy of the minutes of the meeting held in New Delhi on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2011 under the Chairmanship of the Addl. Director General of Forests (WL), to discuss the Red Listing process in India.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Prakriti Srivastava)

Deputy Inspector General (WL)  
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Encl: As above.

**Distribution:**

1. Dr J.R. Bhatt, Director, CS Division, MoEF
2. Director, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata
3. Director, Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata
4. Director Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun
5. Dr J.S. Rawat, Programme Coordinator, IUCN-India Office, New Delhi
6. Dr Asad Rahmani, Director, BNHS, Mumbai
7. Dr Sanjay Molur, Zoo Outreach Organization, Coimbatore
8. Dr Karthikeyan Vasudevan, Scientist D, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
9. Dr W. Vishwanath, Life Science Department, Manipur University, Canchipur-795003
10. Dr J.K. De, Scientist, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata
11. Dr Ahmedullah, Scientist, Botanical Survey of India, A-88, Brij Vihar, P.O. Chander Nagar, District Ghaziabad-201011
12. Dr C. Srinivasulu, Department of zoology, Osmania University, Hyderabad
13. Dr Neelesh Dahanukar Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore
14. Dr M. Sabu, Professor, Department of Botany, University of Calicut, Kerala.
15. Dr N.M. Ishwar, IUCN-India-Office, New Delhi.

**Copy to:**

1. PPS to Addl. DGF(WL), MoEF
2. PPS to IGF(WL), MoEF
3. PS to DIG(WL), MoEF

**Minutes of the meetings held in New Delhi on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2011 to discuss the Red listing Process in India**

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A meeting was convened on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2011 in New Delhi to consolidate the discussions on the Red Listing process in India initiated in the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2011 held in the IUCN-India Office, Anand Lok, New Delhi. The meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2011 was held in Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of the Addl. Director General of Forests (WL).

The list of participants who attended the meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> October 2011 are at **Annexure-1** and **Annexure-2** respectively.

**Brief outcomes of discussions held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2011:**

The meeting started with a presentation by Ms. Caroline Pollock, IUCN Red List Unit, Cambridge, on the procedure that needs to be followed for assessment of a species and its final inclusion in the Red List. She detailed that after the experts completed the assessments, these were further checked and verified and then submitted for verification to the Red List unit. After a process of peer review by the Species Specialist Group (SSC) Chairs of the respective groups or notified experts, these assessments would be finally accepted and then incorporated to update the Red List site. She also informed the basic governance structure of the Global Red Listing process and advised that a similar structure needs to be put in place for the Indian Red Listing process. Ms. Caroline also mentioned the immediate priority of undertaking the assessments of endemic species. She added that the data that would be generated can be housed in the Red List Species Information System (SIS) software itself as the endemic assessments were also global assessments for the species. However, Ms. Caroline informed the meeting that data storage and software needs had to be addressed once the non-endemics were taken up by the Steering Committee.

Ms. Dena Cator, IUCN H.Q, Gland, Switzerland informed the participants that realistically a maximum of 500-550 species could be assessed and agreed upon in a year without compromising on data quality.

Ms Caroline also informed that the Indian endemic assessments for all Mammals and Birds had been completed and these could be directly used for the publication needs. In addition, it was also mentioned that many species of amphibians, reptiles and fresh water fishes had also been assessed and would be uploaded on the Red List site shortly (by the November 2011 update). This would cover almost 1,000 species of endemic vertebrates. The experts discussed and agreed that the remaining endemic amphibians, reptiles and fresh water fishes from India that needed assessments would be approximately around 270 species. Further, it was decided that the experts could realistically complete the assessments for endemic vertebrates and also work on a publication with summary analysis to be showcased in time for CoP-11 (October 2011).



This was followed by a discussion on endemic plant assessments, and deliberations on merits of assessing endemic Orchids and/or Bamboos and Rattans. After discussions, it was decided that listing of about 300 species of endemic orchids could be attempted.

After the identification of species to be assessed for CoP-11, the timelines for achieving the targets were discussed and agreed upon as follows:

- **October – mid-November 2011**
  - Formalise roles and responsibilities (MOUs, TORs)
  - Employ necessary staff
- **October 2011**
  - Identify species experts
  - Prepare species lists for assessment
- **November 2011**
  - Red List of India launch meeting
- **November 2011 - May 2012**
  - Data compilation
- **January 2012**
  - Training workshop
- **March – April 2012**
  - Vertebrates assessment workshop
  - Assessment data clean up and checks
- **May – June 2012**
  - Plants assessment workshop
  - Assessment data clean up and checks
- **July 2012**
  - Final checks
  - Final assessments submission to IUCN Red List Unit
- **July - October 2012**
  - Data analysis
  - Report writing
  - Publication
- **October 2012**
  - Presentation of results at CBD COP11

Finally, it was agreed that a detailed Power Point Presentation in this regard would be made before the Addl. Director General of Forests (WL) on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2011 in Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi.

#### **Brief outcomes of discussions held on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2011:**

Based on the discussion and the decisions on the 12<sup>th</sup> October 2011, Ms Caroline Pollock made a detailed presentation on the governance structure for the Indian Red List process, the species that would be assessed, the timelines and work plan leading to CoP-11 along with budgetary requirements for the exercise, before a Group Chaired by the Addl.

Director General of Forests (WL). This was followed by discussions and given below is a summary of the decisions made by the Group:

***On the Governance Structure/Roles and responsibilities:***

While acknowledging that there is a need for a strong structure to institutionalise the Red Listing Process in India, the Group recommended that the National agencies like BSI and ZSI who are also members of the Steering Committee on the subject needed to be given the overall lead role in the process so as to make the process more robust and nationally acceptable.

***On the species groups that would be assessed for CoP-11:***

The Group noted that assessment of all endemic vertebrates could be completed and published by October 2012. However, it was felt that attempting assessment of all 300 species of endemic orchids by October 2012 might require some caution. The Group felt that it might be appropriate to set a much lower bar (say 100 species) so that the assessment of these could be completed and presented in CoP-11. The States or regions corresponding to these 100 species of orchids could be identified and mentioned in the title of the publication, e.g., 'Red List of Orchids Endemic to India in Western Ghats and Sikkim' (or any other North-Eastern State).

***On the timelines/work plan:***

The Group felt that the current plan extended upto October 2011 and that this was a very ambitious one to fulfil. Therefore, the Group recommended that if needed, the number of species be reduced (as in the case of orchids) and that the entire process be accelerated so that the draft publication be made ready by late June 2011. IUCN was specifically requested to lead and assist in this process of acceleration of the assessments. Based on this, the **revised timelines** are;

- **October – mid-November 2011**
  - Formalise roles and responsibilities (MOUs, TORs)
  - Employ necessary staff
- **October 2011**
  - Identify species experts
  - Prepare species lists for assessment
- **November 2011**
  - Red List of India launch meeting
- **November 2011 - May 2012**
  - Data compilation
- **January 2012**
  - Training workshop
- **March – April 2012**
  - Vertebrates assessment workshop (also includes those orchids that are ready for assessment)

- Assessment data clean up and checks
- **May 2012**
  - Final vertebrate assessment submissions to IUCN Red List Unit
  - Plants assessment workshop (for remaining orchids)
- **May – June 2012**
  - Analysis of endemic vertebrates and report writing.
  - Assessment data clean up and checks (remaining orchids)
- **Late June 2012**
  - Draft report sent to Ministry of Environment and Forests: Red List of India – with analyses focusing on endemic vertebrates.
- **July - October 2012**
  - Publication process (design, typesetting, proofreading, final edits, printing, CD-ROM)
- **October 2012**
  - Presentation of results at CBD COP11

***On budgetary requirements:***

The Group also discussed the funding requirements that were presented and agreed that necessary budget could be provided from available resources of MoEF. The IUCN was requested to submit the detailed proposal in this regard.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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IUCN RED LISTING PROCESS MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2011  
IN PARYAVARAN BHAWAN, NEW DELHI

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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

1	Dr Jagdish Kishwan Addl. DGF (WL), MoEF
2	Ms. Carolene Pollock IUCN Red List Unit, Cambridge
3	Ms. Dena Cator IUCN Head Quarters, Gland, Switzerland
4	Dr Sanjay Molur Zoo Outreach Organization, Coimbatore
5	Shri A.K. Srivastava IGF (WL), MoEF
6	Ms. Prakriti Srivastava DIG(WL), MoEF
7	Ms. M. Geethanjali JD(WL), MoEF
8	Dr J.S.Rawat Programme Coordinator, IUCN-India Office, New Delhi

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**IUCN RED LISTING PROCESS MEETING HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2011  
IN IUCN-INDIA COUNTRY OFFICE, 20, ANAND LOK, NEW DELHI**

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**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

1	Dr J.R. Bhatt Director, MoEF
2	Ms. Prakriti Srivastava DIG(WL), MoEF
3	Dr J.S. Rawat Programme Coordinator, IUCN-India Office, New Delhi
4	Ms. Carolene Pollock IUCN Red List Unit, Cambridge
5	Ms. Dena Cator IUCN Head Quarters, Gland, Switzerland
6	Dr Sanjay Molur Zoo Outreach Organization, Coimbatore
7	Dr N.M. Ishwar IUCN-India Country Office, New Delhi
8	Dr J.K. De Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata
9	Dr W.Vishwanath Life Science Department, Manipur University, Imphal
10	Dr C.Srinivasulu Department of Zoology, Osmania University, Hyderabad
11	Dr Neelesh Dahanukar Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore1
11	Dr M. Sabu Department of Botany, Calicut University, Kerala
12	Dr Karthikeyan Vasudevan Scientist D, WII, Dehradun

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