

RESOLUTION #: 12

TITLE: Wilderness Areas in Asia

WHEREAS: Wilderness areas in Asia, particularly on the Tibetan Plateau, the Pamir Mountains and other mountain regions in western China, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India, are insufficiently recognized;

The Tibetan Plateau serves as headwaters of major Asian rivers (Brahmaputra, Salween, Mekong, Yangtze and Yellow River), which support billions of people downstream, and is one of the world's premier biodiversity areas;

Is a critical area for the future, with the two most populous countries in the world, both of which are developing rapidly;

The 8th World Wilderness Congress has an insufficient coverage of these and other Asia wilderness areas.

RESOLVED: That the international conservation community and donor agencies encourage national governments of western China, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India to create and maintain these wildernesses in the Tibetan Plateau and the Pamir Mountains, and

That at the 9th World Wilderness Congress there should be a much better coverage of Asian wilderness (internal recommendation).

PROPOSER: Sun Shan, Conservation International China Program
s.shan@conservation.org

SECONDER: George Schaller, Wildlife Conservation Society
gbs.kms@worldnet.att.net