

Amphibian Mini Summit Declaration

21 August 2009

A group of the world's leading amphibian conservationists and scientists, convened by the IUCN Species Survival Commission, meeting at the first Amphibian Mini Summit, at Zoological Society of London, 20-21 August 2009:

Considering that amphibians are undergoing rapid declines and extinctions worldwide and that at least one in every three of over 6,000 amphibian species is at risk of extinction;

Known threats comprise commercial use, introduced species, contaminants, climate change, and especially land use change and infectious diseases; the combination of these threats affects amphibians in ways that are unprecedented, making them the class of animals with the highest collective risk of extinction;

Considering that amphibians are indicators of environmental quality, and with significant ecological, economic, cultural, scientific, medical and educational importance;

Reaffirming the crucial importance of the Amphibian Conservation Action Plan and the *Stopping the Amphibian Crisis* Resolution adopted at the IUCN World Conservation Congress, 2008, held in Barcelona;

Reviewed the threats and determined their relative importance as drivers of extinction for amphibians, and developed and agreed on the following two priority initiatives to be implemented through integrated *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation action:

- Stopping extinctions of amphibians threatened by land use change or commercial use
- Stopping the spread and reversing the impact of infectious disease caused by the amphibian chytrid fungus

To implement these two priority initiatives, the participants (listed below) agreed to mobilize the necessary intellectual and financial resources by establishing the Amphibian Survival Alliance;

The Alliance will develop a strategy to bring in resources through which it will be staffed, and to build further global capacity.

The new Alliance will work with partners to implement the Amphibian Conservation Action Plan and to submit it as a comprehensive Global Strategy for Amphibian Conservation to the global conservation community through the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2010, the International Year of Biodiversity.

This Mini Summit represents the first in a series of meetings to be held every two years to assess progress on the two initiatives and to advance global amphibian conservation.

Supported by:

Alliance for Zero Extinction

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