

# European Sustainable Use Group (ESUG)

## General Meeting of Members

Wednesday, 24 June 2015

14.00 – 17.00

Research Institute of Wildlife Ecology, University of Veterinary Medicine in Vienna,  
Savoyenstrasse 1, A-1160 Vienna, Austria

### Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Introduction
3. Statement on Quorum
4. Minutes of meeting on 26 August 2013 and matters arising (CITES and Trophy Hunting) [\[paper 1\]](#)
5. IUCN changes and relevant European government activities  
SULi development, SULi-News and other ESUG support;  
SUME creation, objectives, structure and ESUG support. [\[paper 2\]](#)  
Members will be asked to endorse ESUG support for SUME.
6. SU engagements by group members  
Reed biomass  
Sakers and falconry: ESUG's contract for a Saker Falcon portal system
7. Portal activities  
Upgrade of Naturalliance portal  
Conclusions from morning discussion on SYCL development [\[paper 3, Doc B\]](#)
8. Future of ESU(S)G  
Bids submitted in April 2015  
Conclusions from morning discussion on funding and structure [\[paper 4\]](#)  
Members will be asked to approve ESUG engagement in portal licensing.
9. Report of the Chair
10. Financial reports for 2013 and 2014 [\[papers 5 & 6\]](#)
11. Adoption of financial report
12. Proposed changes to the constitution [\[please see below\]](#)
13. Elections of Chair and Committee Members
14. Any other business

## Proposals for amendments to the Constitution of ESU(S)G

(NB references are to the English translation – the official version is in French)

ESUSG originated as a regional group of IUCN's programme of Sustainable Use activities and was accepted as the European representation of the Sustainable Use Specialist Group in IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC). In order to take part in projects funded by European Commission, ESUSG obtained its own legal identity (under Belgian law). When the Sustainable Use and Livelihoods Specialist Group was created across SSC and the Commission for Environmental Economics and Social Policy, ESUSG was invited to change its name to European Sustainable Use Group in order to lose the SSC-Specialist Group connotation (as SUSG no longer exists) and to become the European support group for SULi.

### Name

With a majority of its members also in SULi and a majority of SULi members in Europe also being in ESU(S)G, ESU(S)G embraced this offer and voted to change name to European Sustainable Use Group. However, uncertainty about the future outside IUCN and the effect of a name change on bids then current delayed official registration of the new name in Belgium. Meanwhile, creation of a new global IUCN group for Sustainable Use and Management of Ecosystems (SUME) has provided opportunity to enhance linkage with IUCN if we become more global, albeit with activities continuing to focus strongly on Europe. This presents opportunity either to choose a new name which retains our previous acronym, as "Ecosystem and Sustainable Use Support Group" (**option 1**), or to link in name more closely to one of our main activities, as "Naturalliance" (**option 2**), or confirm the name European Sustainable Use Group requested by SULi in 2013 (**option 3**). We will vote on these options.

### Article 1.

The current version is (with italics for the changed section):

In accordance with the Belgian Act of 25 October 1919, modified by the Act of 6 December 1954 and that of 30 June 2000, granting civil status to international non-profitmaking associations, an international non-profitmaking association *has been formed under the name: European Sustainable Use Specialist Group of IUCN/SSC - abbreviated as "ESUSG"*. The statutes have been translated into English, but in the event of difficulties in their interpretation, the French text shall be considered as original and as binding.

The proposed changed section reads:

... an international non-profitmaking association *was formed under the name: European Sustainable Use Specialist Group of IUCN/SSC. In 2015 its name changed to [name-option 1 for IUCN - abbreviated as "ESUSG"] / [name-option 2] / [name-option 3 - abbreviated as "ESUG"]*. The statutes... ..

### Article 2.

The current preamble is (with italics for the changed section):

*Within the framework of IUCN - the International Union for Conservation of Nature - whose objectives are to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to*

conserve the integrity and diversity of Nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable, *ESUSG* has as its objectives:

- a. to identify and evaluate the principles and elements of management which contribute to enhancing sustainability of use of wild *fauna and flora and their habitats*; and

The proposed new wording is:

*As an organisation which supports IUCN - the International Union for Conservation of Nature) - whose objectives are ....., [name-option] has as its objectives:*

- a. .... use of wild *species and their ecosystems*; and

*d. To work with IUCN to provide guidance to communities that engenders conservation through sustainable use, while balancing cultural and economic objectives.*

The change at (a) notes that other Kingdoms are used (e.g. mycota) and that addition of (d) would align us better with requirements of both SUME and SULi.

#### **Article 5.**

Individuals, who subscribe to the objectives of IUCN (the International Union for Conservation of Nature) and of the *ESUSG*, who support the *ESUSG*'s vision and strategy, who have expertise in or experience of one or more types of natural resource use relevant to the association's strategy, who reside or work in a European country and who are willing to make an active contribution to fulfilling the objects of the association, may become Full Members, admitted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 7

Change in abbreviation from *ESUSG* to **[name-option]** is required.

For global engagement, delete “, *who reside or work in a European country*”

#### **Article 9.**

The organs of the association are:

- 1° The General Meeting of Members
- 2° The Committee
- 3° Thematic Working Groups as determined by the General Meeting of Members or the Committee

In order to formalise their growing role in our activities, add

- “4° *Country Coordinators appointed by the Chair.*”

#### **Article 14.**

The Committee consists of the Chair and five elected members. In addition ...

In order to link us constitutionally more closely to IUCN, at our behest and without veto of IUCN as was previously the case for chair and members:

The Committee consists of the Chair and five elected members, one of whom holds office in a sustainable use group in the IUCN Commissions. In addition ...