

**Memorandum of Understanding
between
the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation
(CIC)
and
the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)**

[Administrative Working Document]



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1. Factsheet: International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC)

1.1 Description

(CIC) is a politically independent, international, non-governmental advisory body that advocates for wildlife conservation through the principles of sustainable use.

1.2 Mission

To promote and support the conservation of wildlife and related landscapes, local communities and traditions through sustainable use including hunting.

1.3 Vision

A world where wildlife is valued and conserved as part of nature for the benefit of humanity.

1.4 Priority areas

1. Promoting and supporting the conservation of nature – its habitats and species – through the sustainable use of wild biological resources, including hunting.
2. Worldwide dissemination of knowledge on nature conservation through sustainable use.
3. Enhancing the public's understanding of nature and natural processes, with a special emphasis on youth.
4. Furthering scientific and academic research in the field of wildlife biology and the management of wildlife populations.
5. Safeguarding local customs in connection with wildlife management and their irreplaceable contributions to tangible and intangible natural and cultural heritage.
6. Promoting the importance of wildlife managers as necessary in building and maintaining healthy ecosystems in achieving the principles of 'One Health'.
7. Giving a voice to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) while supporting their inclusion in multilateral environmental decision-making.
8. Improving the habitats of wildlife through rewilding and ecosystem restoration, such as through supporting the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

1.5 Headquarters

Vienna, Austria

1.6 Foundation

The International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) is among the oldest conservation organisations in the world, with the organisation currently representing 27 government bodies within its 1,800+ strong membership. Today, the CIC is active in over 80 countries.

During its more than 90 years of existence, the CIC has gained global recognition as an independent advisor in the field of wildlife conservation. In addition to its practical work in the field, it promotes the principle of sustainable use in international policy development. Throughout the years, the CIC has also branched out to advocate for other issues interconnected with wildlife conservation and sustainable use, such as supporting the needs and rights of indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs).

The CIC has had much success in its efforts to conserve endangered species around the world, as well as habitat conservation and agri-environmental projects.

1.7 Structure

The CIC is directed from its legal seat in Vienna, where its central office is located in the very centre of Vienna. In addition to the central office in Vienna, the CIC operates an Administrative Office in Budapest, Hungary. The current President of the CIC is Philipp Harmer. The current Director-General is Sebastian Winkler. The organs of the CIC are the:

- General Assembly
- Executive Committee
- Council (Executive Committee members and Heads of National Delegations)
- National Delegations

The General Assembly of the CIC is responsible for carrying out various tasks related to the ongoing work and functions of the CIC such as: Approve new members, review the reports of the President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer, as well as the reports and recommendations of the Divisions and Working Groups, decide on long-term strategy, approve the balance sheet, give discharge to all officers, amend the present budget (if necessary), approve the budget, adopt and amend the Statutes, elect the President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer and Auditors, elect the Presidents of the Divisions and Working Groups, decide to deviate from statutory term limits of office of elected officers on proposal of the Executive Committee, relieve CIC elected officers of their post upon proposal of the Executive Committee, decide on the appeals foreseen in the Statutes.

1.8 Divisions

- **Policy & Law:** The main activity of this Division consists in developing hunting and wildlife management policy and advocating globally for the sustainable use of wildlife, especially through the following core areas: Hunting Laws and Policies, Multilateral Agreements, Weapons, Ammunition and Cross-border Movement.
- **Applied Science:** This Division aims to provide scientific data and facts on wildlife conservation and hunting issues, and to support scientific research on wildlife management and conservation. Core Working Fields: Big Game, Small Game, Migratory Birds, Wildlife Diseases, Wildlife Resource Economics, Crop and Livestock Production Systems and Wildlife, Trophy Evaluation.
- **Culture:** The Culture Division aims to maintain the cultural heritage derived from hunting. Core Working Fields: Traditional Hunting, Bowhunting, Falconry, Hunting in Art, Way of Life, Hunting and Gastronomy, CIC Museum Palárikovo, CIC Library.

1.9 CIC's main achievements

- Recognition as an International Inter-Governmental Observer Organisation at United Nations Environmental Conventions (AEWA, Bern Convention, CBD, CITES, CMS) and a member of IUCN. This allows the CIC to give interventions on the development of critical wildlife management policies.
- The establishment of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW), a cooperation platform bringing together organisations working in different aspects of wildlife management (food security, animal-human health, wildlife trade, wildlife species and habitat conservation, etc.).
- Providing a voice to indigenous peoples and local communities at events and press conferences, as well as facilitating their inclusion in multilateral environmental decision-making.
- Joint projects with renowned international organisations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)
- Providing technical wildlife management expertise at the state level.
- Promoting game meat as a sustainable and healthy alternative to factory farmed animal products. This includes the publication of the 'CIC World Game Cookbook', a collection of game

meat recipes from around the world that aims to introduce wild game and the concept of the value chain to broader audiences in an accessible manner.

- Supporting and contributing towards hunting culture (art, falconry, traditions, etc) and the recognition of hunting and sustainable use as of form of intangible cultural heritage.

1.10 Partners and stakeholders

In addition to its Members, CIC has partnered with organisations such as: FAO, UNESCO, UNEP, WOAAH, IUCN, IAF, FACE, ELO, CMS, CITES, CEU, CBD. CIC is an active member of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW) along with WOAAH.

2. Memorandum of Understanding

**RENEWAL
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR GAME AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION (CIC)
AND
THE WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH (WOAH)**

WHEREAS, the World Organisation for Animal Health, whose statutory name is *Office International des Epizooties*, (hereinafter referred to as 'WOAH') is an intergovernmental organisation recognised by the World Trade Organization as a reference organisation for international standards concerning the sanitary safety of international trade of animals and products of animal origin and zoonoses, and is in charge of improving animal health, veterinary public health and animal welfare worldwide, as well as transparency of the global animal disease situation;

WHEREAS, the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation is a politically independent, international, non-governmental advisory body whose mission is to advocate for wildlife conservation through the principles of sustainable use (hereinafter referred to as 'CIC');

WHEREAS, the CIC and WOAH (hereinafter referred to collectively as the 'Parties' and individually as a 'Party') share common objectives and wish to collaborate to further their common goals and objectives within their respective mandates and governing rules and regulations;

RECOGNISING the need to develop and strengthen their cooperation in order to benefit from complementarities while avoiding unnecessary duplication and overlapping; and

CONSIDERING THAT, the Parties formalised a basis for cooperation and collaboration on matters of common interest, through a Memorandum of Understanding signed on 26 May 2011 (hereinafter referred to as the '2011 MoU');

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties are interested in continuing their collaboration and therefore have agreed to enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as the 'MoU'), which will supersede the 2011 MoU:

**ARTICLE 1
PURPOSE OF THE MOU**

The purpose of this MoU is to establish a framework for continuing the cooperation between the Parties, within their respective competencies and subject to their respective rules and regulations, to enable The Parties to pursue more effectively their common interests and objectives.

**ARTICLE 2
AREAS OF COOPERATION**

When appropriate, the Parties shall exchange views on relevant policy issues within their respective competence and shall consult regularly with each other on matters of common interest, such as wildlife health, epidemiological surveillance, wildlife trade with a view to achieving their objectives and coordinating their positions and activities. This will include the following illustrative list of topics and activities of mutual interest:

- a. Identifying, documenting and disseminating successful experience and best practices on fighting animal diseases and avoiding their spread into wildlife, domestic animals and humans.

- b. Improving communication among countries and between national veterinary services and national hunting associations through the promotion of the networks of professional experts on spreading of infectious animal diseases (early warning system), working out operational guidelines and capacity building for the reference laboratories and collaborating centres for control of wildlife diseases.
- c. Propose experts on WOA's request that could contribute to inter alia WOA's technical assistance programmes in animal diseases and veterinary public health. It is understood that WOA will keep the ultimate responsibility to select and appoint the experts.
- d. Developing joint projects within the scope of their collaboration, mainly (but not restricted to) demonstrating best practice, to test innovations and to train human resources. If the CIC identifies financial resources for the implementation of projects jointly developed, WOA with its experience and capacities available is most suited to be entrusted to execute such projects in a trust fund arrangement with or through the CIC.
- e. Be available to assist WOA in organising conferences, seminars, training workshops and technical meetings on matters related to sustainable use and conservation of wildlife and veterinary public health at global, regional and national level. It is understood that it will be WOA's prerogative to prepare and finalise the meetings' agenda and list of participants and identify the resource persons.
- f. Demonstrate the collaboration through representatives of the Parties participating in the different forum at various levels of the other organisation.
- g. The Parties will also collaborate in communicating the results of their joint work through joint press releases and joint publications in public, general and professional media.

Other areas of cooperation or activities may be identified and jointly agreed upon by the Parties during the implementation of this MoU.

Within the context defined above, meetings will be encouraged and convened on an ad hoc basis as deemed necessary by the Parties to address priority matters of common interest, discuss technical and operational issues and review progress of work undertaken by the Parties related to further the objectives of this MoU.

ARTICLE 3 MODALITIES OF COOPERATION

1. **Exchange of information and documents.** Subject to their respective internal regulations regarding the safeguarding of confidential information, the Parties will, as necessary and appropriate, exchange information and documents concerning matters of common interest. Such information shall be used by the Parties solely for the purposes of their collaboration.
2. **Technical cooperation.** The Parties shall, in the interest of their respective activities, seek each other's expertise and observations to optimise the effects of such activities. Should the activities of the Parties in fields of common interest so dictate, either Party may request the cooperation of the other whenever the latter Party is in a position to help develop the former's activities. The Parties shall endeavour, insofar as possible and in compliance with their constituent instruments and the decisions of their competent bodies, to respond favourably to such requests for cooperation in accordance with procedures and arrangements to be mutually agreed upon.
3. **Reciprocal representation.** The Parties will extend to each other invitations for participation in all meetings, seminars and conferences during which matters of common interest are to be discussed and where observers are allowed.

ARTICLE 4 IMPLEMENTATION

1. The Parties may, if necessary, enter into additional arrangements for the implementation of this MoU. The terms of such arrangements would be subject to the provisions of this MoU.
2. Any annex to this MoU will be considered an integral part of this MoU.

ARTICLE 5 FINANCIAL ASPECTS

1. Nothing in this MoU shall give rise to financial obligations upon either Party.
2. To the extent any activity may give rise to financial obligations, a separate agreement shall be concluded subject to the Parties' respective internal rules and policies, prior to such activity being undertaken.

ARTICLE 6 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

1. The Parties recognise the importance of protecting and respecting intellectual property rights. This MoU does not grant the right to use any work created outside the framework of this MoU, of which one Party is the author or holds the intellectual property rights.
2. All intellectual property rights in materials developed jointly by the Parties will be jointly owned by the Parties. Intellectual property rights in any material made available by the Parties to be used to carry out the activities shall remain with the originating Party.
3. The Parties will mutually agree on preparation and issuance of any publications pertaining to joint activities arising from this MoU. If a Party (the 'Publishing Party') prepares and issues publications on its own which refers to joint activities involving both Parties, the other Party shall be given the opportunity to comment on the content before the publication is issued, and the Parties will agree on any further amendment to the text. The copyright to the publication shall remain with the Publishing Party. The copyright of any contribution made to the publication by the other Party (the 'Contributing Party') will be retained by the Contributing Party who hereby grants to the Publishing Party a worldwide, non-exclusive, sub-licensable, royalty-free licence to use such copyright for purposes of publication.
4. The collaboration of the Parties shall be duly acknowledged in any publication resulting from this MoU, unless a Party notifies that it does not wish to be associated with the publication. The wording of the acknowledgement shall be agreed between the Parties.

ARTICLE 7 CONFIDENTIALITY

1. The Parties may disclose to the public this MoU and information with respect to activities carried out under this MoU in accordance with the Parties' relevant policies.
2. Any sharing of confidential information between the Parties will be subject to their respective policies and procedures relating to the disclosure of confidential information. Each Party will take any action to protect confidential and/or classified information of the other Party.

**ARTICLE 8
USE OF THE PARTIES' NAMES AND EMBLEMS**

Except as provided in any subsequent agreement, neither Party shall use the other Party's name, acronym and/or emblem, without the prior written consent of that other Party.

**ARTICLE 9
LIABILITY**

Each Party shall be solely responsible for the manner in which it or its personnel carries out its part of the collaborative activities under this MoU and/or any subsequent agreement. Thus, neither Party shall be responsible for any loss, accident, damage or injury suffered or caused by the other Party, or that other Party's employees, consultants or subcontractors, in connection with, or as a result of, the collaborative activities under this MoU and/or any subsequent agreement, unless such loss, accident, damage or injury suffered by one Party results from gross negligence or wilful misconduct of the other Party.

**ARTICLE 10
PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES**

Nothing in or relating to this Agreement shall be deemed a waiver, express or implied, of any privileges and immunities of WOAHA and its staff.

**ARTICLE 11
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. This MoU will enter into force upon signature by the Director General of WOAHA and the President of CIC.
2. The Parties shall endeavour to keep track of progress made in activities jointly agreed to, and to regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of this MoU.
3. This MoU shall have a four-year term, which may be renewed in writing by mutual consent of the Parties. Each Party may suggest revisions to this MoU prior to renewal date or at any other appropriate time in order to update the content of this MoU.
4. This MoU may be amended by mutual consent expressed in writing.
5. Either Party may also terminate this MoU by giving six months' notice to the other Party.
6. Termination will not affect the implementation of ongoing activities, which have been decided by the Parties prior to the date of termination, unless otherwise agreed by the Parties in writing.
7. Any dispute arising out of the interpretation or implementation of the provisions of this MoU shall be settled amicably through consultation or negotiation between the Parties.

The Parties agree that this MoU will be concluded physically or electronically via email exchange of scanned and signed copies, and that the signed copied exchanged in this manner shall be treated as originals.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Director General of the World Organisation for Animal Health and the President of the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation, have signed the present MoU in duplicate, in English, on **[INSERT DATE]**.

Monique Eloit
Director General
World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)

Philipp Harmer
President
The International Council for Game and
Wildlife Conservation (CIC)