

The International Peatland Society (IPS) is an organisation of corporate and individual members dedicated to the responsible management and Wise Use of peatlands and peat. Our mission is to serve all those involved in peatlands and peat through the promotion, gathering, exchange and communication of knowledge and experience, by means of events and projects which address key issues, including climate change, biodiversity, the need for responsible use and restoration. Currently the IPS has 1486 individual, corporate, student and institutional members from 35 countries.

Survey for the International Peat Congress

If you have participated in the International Peat Congress in Malaysia you are still welcome to give feedback to that event. Go to <https://goo.gl/forms/OJsz0lpdgkKcPyRU2> and answer a few simple questions on what has been successful and what could be improved for future IPS conferences. Thanks to all who have shared their opinion! The survey will be closed on **15 October**.

Preview Peatlands International 2-3.2016

The following articles are planned to be published in Peatlands International 2.2016 in October or later in December.

- Looking back at the International Peat Congress in Kuching – Susann Warnecke
- Incoming remarks by the new IPS President – Gerald Schmilewski
- 16th Baltic Peat Producers Forum – Ugne Radziunaite
- New Executive Board and Scientific Advisory Board for the IPS
- C-PEAT – Lydia Cole, Ian Lawson, Dave Beilman, Dan Charman and Zicheng Yu
- VI International Meeting on the Biology of Sphagnum, Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia – Jan Köbbing
- Work begins on €16 million project to transform moorland – Debra Wilson
- Tribute to Suwido H. Limin – Jack Rieley, Susan Page, Adi Jaya, Bambang Setiadi and Hidenori Takahashi
- In memoriam: András Tóth – Hungarian Peat Society
- Taking it to the air – Grant Hamilton

For the next issue, please send your articles, photos and other material by **20 November** to [susann.warnecke \(at\) peatlands.org](mailto:susann.warnecke@peatlands.org). Please do not forget captions, the names of the copyright holders and full author contact details. We also still welcome advertisements, smaller announcements and cover photos.

Upcoming EB and SAB Meetings

The Executive Board of the IPS has recently held its phone meeting on 27 September. Next meetings will be by phone in late October and face-to-face in Rotterdam, Netherlands during **16 - 18 November**, including a meeting with local specialists. The new members of the Scientific Advisory Board of the IPS will meet for the first time in Hamburg, Germany on **12 October**, supported by the 2nd Vice President and IPS Communications Manager.

IUCN Peatland Resolution Hawai'i 2016

The IUCN World Conservation Congress in Hawai'i has adopted a Peat Motion aiming at the protection of peatlands worldwide. According to IUCN, the motion was adopted through electronic ballot prior to the event with 96% support and will now be adopted as international IUCN policy with the following recommendations. IUCN...

1. RECOMMENDS that the Commission on Ecosystem Management should develop or endorse an existing scientific definition of peatland to be applied by the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) in its Soils Charter, by the Ramsar Convention in its classification of wetland type, and by IUCN;
2. REQUESTS the World Commission on Environmental Law to prepare draft legislation for nations to use as a

guideline recommending how to preserve and restore peatlands and how to include them alongside forests in all relevant intergovernmental agreements relating to climate change, geodiversity and biodiversity;

3. CALLS ON National Committees to cooperate with the Secretariat, Commissions and Members in developing or contributing to country-focused programmes to protect, restore and sustainably manage peatlands taking cognisance of the strategic actions of the FAO 'guidance for climate change mitigation by conservation, rehabilitation and sustainable use of peatlands' and the ongoing work of the Ramsar Convention particularly under Ramsar Resolution XII.11 on peatlands, climate change and wise use (2015);

4. URGES states to place a moratorium on peat exploitation until their legislation is strengthened to ensure peatlands are protected or managed through wise use principles; and

5. RECOMMENDS states to give appropriate consideration to the importance of the preservation of peatlands when implementing activities to reduce deforestation and forest degradation.

To read the full resolution, please visit <https://portals.iucn.org/congress/motion/046>.

Peatland Seminar in Indonesia in October

The Indonesian Peat Society (HGI) will hold its 7th National Congress to elect a new President, including a Semi-international Seminar on Restoration, Conservation and Sustainable Management of Peatlands with a special session on Sustainable Management of Sub-optimal lands, in Bogor City during **26 - 28 October 2016**. A talk show hosted by Prof. Budi Indra Setiawan (HGI) and Prita Laura (Metro TV Presenter) will include the following topics:

- Lesson learned of peatland management in JAPAN (Prof. Mitsuru Osaki, Hokkaido University)
- Lesson learned of peatland management in EUROPE (Dr. Meine Van Noorwidjk, ICRAF/Wageningen University)
- Lesson learned of peatland management in INDONESIA (Prof. Supiandi Sabiham, President HGI)
- Peat sustainable management in Indonesia: POLICY & PRACTICES (Dr. Dedi Nursyamsi, Head of Agricultural Land Resource Research, the Ministry of Agriculture)

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2017 World Restoration Conference in Brazil

The Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) will hold its 7th World Conference from **27 August to 1 September 2017** in Foz do Iguassu, Brazil. The theme for SER2017 is "Linking Science and Practice for a Better World". SER2017 is expected to attract more than 1,000 delegates from around the world including researchers, practitioners and policymakers, as well as artists, educators, students and community leaders from government agencies, intergovernmental organizations, NGOs, and private industry – covering a wide range of professional expertise in the natural and social sciences, landscape architecture, environmental engineering, urban and regional planning, and public policy. Deadline for proposals is **20 December 2016**. For more information see <http://ser2017.org>.

Canadian Peat Moss Harvest 2016 below Expectations

The Canadian Sphagnum Peat Moss Association (CSPMA), whose members represent 95% of the North American peat production, has conducted a survey of members on the status of their 2016 actual harvest as a percentage of their 2016 expected harvest on August 31. Overall the season has been disappointing with no region achieving the expected volumes. In New-Brunswick, the industry is slightly below average (North 93%, South 76%) after a wet cool summer. The harvest on Québec's South Shore (89%) is below expectations, with some producers achieving targeted volumes. In Québec's North Shore (75%) the results are less favorable due to weather conditions. The Prairie Provinces (MB, SK & AB), have experienced a poorer (Manitoba 83%, Saskatchewan 70%, Alberta 79%) harvest primarily due to adverse weather. Minnesota has experienced a similarly lower than expected harvest with only 84% achieved. Further adjustments to this release may be made dependent on the ability to harvest in the fall season. The industry had lower carryover inventory volumes from the previous harvest season. As in the past, the CSPMA members are committed to working cooperatively with their commercial business partners. More info: www.peatmoss.com.