



Kathmandu Resolution

January 20, 2017

We, the representatives of the governments of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Kingdom of Bhutan, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of India, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Nepal, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan, are the architects of the [Bishkek Declaration on Conservation of Snow Leopards](#) and the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP).

As the guardians of Asia's snow leopard landscapes, and having successfully met in Kathmandu on 20th January 2017, **we hereby:**

Reiterate that Asia's high mountains, inhabited by the endangered snow leopard, represent humanity's invaluable cultural, biological, geophysical and economic heritage, and their ecosystem services such as clean water and pasturage support a significant proportion of the world's human population;

Voice our strong concern about the degradation of our mountain ecosystems and decline of snow leopards and associated biodiversity;

Reconfirm our joint commitment to saving snow leopards and Asia's mountain ecosystems by cooperatively addressing challenges posed by habitat degradation, climate change, retaliatory killing, lack of capacity and poaching and illegal wildlife trade;

Recognize the need for better and more expansive scientific monitoring of snow leopard populations, recognizing that less than 2% of the global snow leopard habitat has so far been sampled using best available science;

Raise the profile of snow leopard conservation and climate resilient sustainable development of mountain communities through high-level dialogue and policy interventions, capacity building programs and initiate a campaign to publicize the importance of snow leopards and economic and cultural value of the services provided by the mountain ecosystems;

Agree to incorporate the economic value of ecosystem services in public policy;

Call upon all concerned multi-lateral agencies conservation and development agencies, financial institutions and civil society organizations to support the successful implementation of the GSLEP program and create special funding mechanisms for this purpose;

Encourage partnership with business and industry leaders to take an active role in protecting the snow leopard landscapes and partake in an environmentally and socially sustainable development in the 12 snow leopard range countries;



Direct the GSLEP Secretariat to work with the UN agencies to explore further funding from Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund and others for implementation of GSLEP;

Welcome Nepal's initiative to set up a Himalayan Research Centre and encourage young scientists and others in research and conservation of snow leopards;

Propose greater engagement of the youth of range countries in the conservation and management of snow leopard landscapes and associated biodiversity;

Deeply appreciate and thank the Government, the Prime Minister and the people of Nepal for hosting the steering committee meeting;

And,

Welcome the initiative of the Kyrgyz President Mr. Atambayev to host the next Global Snow Leopard Forum in Bishkek on August 24-25, 2017 that aims to develop mechanisms for achieving the urgent needs of economic development of our nations and mountain communities and the preservation of snow leopards and their mountain ecosystems in a balanced and sustainable manner.

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