



## **Cholpon-Ata Resolution IX Steering Committee Meeting of The Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program**

We, the representatives of the Governments of Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, have gathered in Cholpon-Ata, Kyrgyzstan, on June 5-6, 2025, for the IX Steering Committee Meeting of the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP). We have reviewed the work done on snow leopard conservation in the countries and have assessed the work of the GSLEP Secretariat and our international partner organizations. We appreciate the progress made by the countries, the GSLEP Secretariat, and partner organizations in snow leopard conservation, and reaffirm our commitment to the Bishkek Declarations (2013 & 2017). We also reiterate that the snow leopard, the apex predator of Asia's high mountains, symbolizes the health and resilience of these ecosystems, which hold immense cultural significance and provide essential ecosystem services, including freshwater, to over a third of the world's population.

We recognize, however, that the challenges for snow leopards, mountain ecosystems, and humanity are formidable. We therefore pledge to:

- **Enhance** financial support towards building sustainable local economies for climate adaptation; and for participation of Indigenous peoples and local communities in conflict mitigation, and snow leopard and habitat conservation programs;
- **Appeal** to Global Biodiversity Framework Fund and other multilateral funding mechanisms to invest in conservation of snow leopards and their habitat programs;
- **Invite** Governments, organizations and people around the world to celebrate 23rd October every year as the International Snow Leopard Day, as designated by the 79<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the United Nations.

We resolve to undertake and oversee the following actions over the next five years:

- **Review and update** our respective National Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Priorities (NSLEPs) within a period of one year, seeking alignment with National Biodiversity Strategies & Action Plans, Nationally Determined Commitments, Sustainable Development Goals and commitments to other international conventions and multilateral environmental agreements.

- **Request** the Secretariat to review and update the Global Support Components of the GSLEP Program within a period of one year and help strengthen bilateral and multilateral dialogue for snow leopard conservation.
- **Strengthen** the ethical foundations of our respective snow leopard conservation policies and action plans, particularly the NSLEPs, with support of the GSLEP Secretariat and Ethical Conservation Alliance over the next two years.
- **Evaluate and update** our respective policies related to various emerging threats to snow leopards and their habitats.
- **Encourage** the Secretariat to formulate a strategy and propose an action plan for worldwide annual celebration of the International Snow Leopard Day to be shared with the Governments and the United Nations, amongst others.

We thank the Government of Mongolia for offering to host the 10<sup>th</sup> GSLEP Steering Committee Meeting.

We welcome the offers of the International Big Cat Alliance (that includes snow leopards), Irbis Public Association and WWF Central Asia to support the GSLEP program.

We appreciate the International Snow Leopard Trust, the United Nations Development Program, and the Global Environment Facility for their continued financial and technical support to the GSLEP Secretariat. We acknowledge the technical support of the Ethical Conservation Alliance to the Secretariat to help improve conservation strategies and practices through guidance and training programs. We thank NABU, Whitley Fund for Nature, PeaceNexus Foundation, and Darwin Initiative for their support to this meeting. We also appreciate the efforts of numerous other organizations that are contributing to snow leopard conservation across our 12 countries.

We express our deep gratitude to the Government of Kyrgyz Republic for their warmth and gracious hospitality.