

CURRICULUM VITAE ANDERS WIJKMAN

Personal

Name: Anders Wijkman
Date of Birth: 30 September 1944
Nationality: Swedish Citizen

Education

BA, Political Science and Economics, Stockholm University 1967

Current position

Senior Advisor, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) and
Department of Energy Systems, Linköping University

Professional background

Member of the Swedish Parliament 1971–78
Secretary General, Swedish Red Cross 1979–88
Secretary General, Swedish Society for Nature Conservation 1989–91
Director General, Swedish Agency for Research Cooperation with Developing Countries 1992–94
Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations and Policy Director, UNDP 1995–97
Ambassador, Swedish Foreign Ministry 1998
Member of the European Parliament 1999–2009
Senior Advisor, SEI and Linköping University 2010–
Chair Swedish Government Task Force on a Review of Public Procurement 2011–

Experience and past involvement with IUCN

As Secretary General of the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation I was representing one of IUCN's many members.
As Policy Director of UNDP, I had close collaboration with IUCN. IUCN's Regional Offices were important partners in many UNDP programmes.
During my years as a Member of the European Parliament I had regular interaction with the Brussels Office of IUCN and hosted many meetings with IUCN representatives. As an active member of the Environment Committee I did my best to support conservation issues and programmes like LIFE.

Offices and membership of governing bodies

Vice President, the Club of Rome 2007–
Board Member of Stockholm Resilience Center 2007–
Board Member of the International Environment Institute in Lund 2010–
Board Member of the Tällberg Foundation 2003–
Board Member of the World Resources Forum Association 2012–
Member of the Advisory Council of the European Climate Foundation 2008–
Member of the Swedish Royal Academy of Sciences 1989–
Member of the Swedish Royal Academy of Agriculture and Forestry 1993–
Member of the World Academy of Arts and Sciences 1998–

Other activities

Author of several books on disaster prevention, sustainable development, HIV/AIDS and Resource efficiency

In August 2012 a new book will be launched “Bankrupting Nature” – co-authored with Professor Johan Rockström, SEI, published by Earthscan

From 2001 to 2009 Chairman of the Board of Globe EU, a network of parliamentarians in favour of strong and proactive environment, conservation and climate policies

Awards

Technology Doctor, h c, Linköping University 2011

Honorary Member of the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation 2008

Vision for the future priorities and development of the Union

The world is at a crossroad. Our world faces many challenges – like the economic and financial crises, increasing gaps in terms of income and wealth, rising unemployment – not least among young people – growing food and water insecurity, climate change and ecosystem decline. From a conservation perspective the challenges include increasing species’ extinction and biodiversity loss.

The way society addresses these problems is far from sufficient. Instead of recognizing the interdependencies, most of the problems are dealt with in a piecemeal manner. Most troubling is the failure to recognize that our welfare and prosperity ultimately depends on healthy ecosystems and biodiversity and a stable climate.

Today we have ample evidence that our progress as the dominant species has come at a high price. Unsustainable patterns of production and consumption as well as population growth constitute a serious threat to the resilience of the planet to support human activity. The problems we face can only be met by reconnecting human development and global sustainability – leaving behind the false dichotomy that puts them at opposing ends.

To me, IUCN represents a huge potential to help lay the foundation for a more sustainable and equitable development path. Underpinned by science, and supported by a rich and diverse membership, IUCN already plays an important role in the worldwide efforts for sustainability. IUCN’s many programmes on the ground, focused on biodiversity conservation and nature-based solutions, inspire people all over the world and demonstrate the multiple benefits of conservation.

If elected as President, I would like to give particular emphasis to policy issues such as:

- *Strengthening and expanding the work on Knowledge Products* – like Biodiversity Hotspot Areas, the Red List of both Threatened Species and Ecosystems, the development of a Natural Resources Governance Framework and the implementation of TEEB (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity).
- *Strengthening and expanding the impact at field level related to biodiversity and ecosystem protection as well as nature-based solutions.* A main challenge will be to align development and poverty reduction strategies with biodiversity protection and the protection and regeneration of ecosystem functions.
- *Helping close the science-policy gap.* In spite of the many environment agreements, overall developments in terms of biodiversity conservation and ecosystem protection are negative. IUCN must strengthen its policy role, not least in the follow up to Nagoya.

- *Looking for synergies with the Rio Conventions.* The more or less vertical approach to most environment problems is ineffective and a missed opportunity. Of particular importance will be to recognize the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem protection with regard to climate change.
- *Strengthened support to all the Multilateral Environment Agreements.* Support to the MEAs is one of IUCN's historical tasks that has to be maintained as a key priority.
- *Exploring and making more visible, the biodiversity aspects of the Green Economy.* Efforts are being made by governments as well as international organizations and scientific institutions to "green" the economy. IUCN has a crucial role to play in helping define *how to take nature into account*, not least biodiversity and ecosystem functions.

With regard to organization and funding – where my knowledge for obvious reasons is limited today – I would give priority to issues such as:

- *Strengthening the strategic insight among the IUCN membership about long-term trends and issues in society that will be of importance to the efforts to protect biodiversity and ecosystems.*
- *Building preparedness for change and transition, both with regard to challenges in the organizational, political and financial environments.*
- *Strengthening the financial situation by diversification of the funding base.*
- *Helping develop a Business Model that will help IUCN produce Global Public Goods, an area of increased importance and funding opportunities.*
- *Strengthening networking and partnering with other organizations.*