

## Board Member Agreement Society for Conservation Biology (Europe Section):

SCB is an international scientific organization composed of individual members around the World with the vision to advance the science and practice of conserving the Earth's biological diversity. SCB is organized in seven regional sections, of which the Europe Section is one. The Europe Section Board is a volunteering group of elected leaders serving the interest of Section members. To ensure that Board Members understand their collective responsibilities, the following agreement aims at articulating their responsibilities towards the Europe Section of SCB. This agreement shall be signed by all Board Members.

### Europe Section Mission

The mission of the European Section of the Society for Conservation Biology is to promote conservation biology and its application to conserve biological diversity in Europe. The principal goals of the Section are

- to increase awareness and understanding of European conservation issues.
- to strengthen conservation biology research and its application in Europe.
- to organise on a regular base, a European Congress of Conservation Biology
- to advocate for biological diversity and willingly offer and promote the role of scientific review in assessment of conservation strategies.
- to develop, promote and facilitate networks of communication and collaboration among Society members, and other researchers, managers, government agencies and non-governmental organizations in Europe and throughout the world.
- To supply unbiased, policy-relevant scientific evidence and/ information on biodiversity and conservation issues.

### Our Board's Values

- Accountability, integrity, and effectiveness.
- Commitment to sustainability, recognising its importance for the long-term viability of human societies and environments.
- Valuing biodiversity – including ecological complexity – and evolutionary processes necessary to support all species including our own.
- Commitment to decreasing human-caused extinctions in Europe
- Promoting the responsibilities of all people and their governments to maintain and restoring biodiversity
- Promoting the importance of science for decision-making.

## Board Member Agreement

I, *First Name, Last Name*, understand that as a member of the SCB Board of the Europe Section, I have a responsibility to ensure that the Section does the best work possible in pursuit of its goals. I believe in the purpose and the mission of the Section, and I will act responsibly and prudently as its steward. Through being a member of the Board I will have authority to vote and determine the overall policies, directions, and balance that the Section will adopt during my term.

I am aware that breaching my responsibilities, as outlined in this document, may result in expulsion from the Board as outlined in the Bylaws of the Europe Section.

I recognize that, as a board member:

1. I am fiscally responsible, with the other board members, for the Section. It is my duty to know what our budget is and to take an active part in planning the budget and implementing the fundraising to meet it.
2. I am formally responsible to the Section. I am responsible to know and approve all policies and programs and to oversee their implementation.
3. I am morally responsible for the health and well-being of the Section. As a member of the Board, I have pledged myself to carry out the Section's vision and mission to achieve its goals.

To carry out these responsibilities I will:

1. Act with honesty, integrity and transparency
2. Consider myself a leader of SCB and its Europe Section and do my best to ensure the Section is well-maintained, financially secure, evolving and always operating in the best interests of our mission and our members.
3. Represent SCB and its Europe Section in a positive and supportive manner at all times
4. Listen carefully to my fellow board members and SCB staff and respect their opinions and respect and support majority decisions of the Board.
5. Actively contribute to the Board and to SCB, by attending board meetings, committee meetings, special events, and participate in at least one committee and lead an initiative.
6. Actively contribute to SCB fundraising activities.
7. Keep confidential information confidential
8. Ensure that personal or financial interests do not conflict with my ability to perform my duties and excuse myself from discussions and votes where I have a conflict of interest.
9. Stay informed about what's going on in the organization, asking questions and request information. I will participate in and take responsibility for making decisions on issues, policies, and other matters and not stay silent if I have questions or concerns.
10. Bring to the attention of the board any issues I believe will have an adverse effect on SCB and its Europe Section.

11. Not harass, bully or discriminate other Board Members, members of SCB staff, colleagues or members of the public that I will interact with as a part of my involvement in SCB.
12. Take responsibility to report any improper conduct or misconduct occurring.

In turn, SCB as an organization will be responsible to me in the following ways:

1. I will be sent, without having to request them, financial reports and an update of activities that allow me to fulfill my formal responsibilities to the Section;
2. I will be provided with adequate orientation when I join the Board and will be informed of any changes in programs;
3. Opportunities will be offered to discuss with the Board President the Section's programs, goals, activities, and status; additionally, I can request such opportunities.
4. I will receive help to perform my duties by keeping me informed about issues in which we are working and opportunities for professional development as a Board Member.
5. Board Members will respond in a straightforward fashion to questions that I feel are necessary to carry out my fiscal, formal, and moral responsibilities to the Section. Board Members and staff will work in good faith with me toward achievement of our goals.
6. If these commitments towards me are not fulfilled, I can call on the Board President to discuss the organization's responsibilities to me.

Board Member:	Signature:	Date:
President SCB-ES	Signature:	Date:

Each Board Member and the Section President shall sign a copy of this Agreement. All Agreements shall be stored in a Section archive available to all Board Members.