

A global community of conservation professionals

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## **Vatican Environmental Representative Attending ICCB-ECCB**

MONTPELLIER – The Society for Conservation Biology is excited to announce Dr. Tebaldo Vinciguerra, an official of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace at the Vatican, will be attending the International Congress for Conservation Biology and European Congress for Conservation Biology on Tuesday, August 4.

Dr. Vinciguerra is an expert on environmental matters at the Vatican and a contributor to the recent papal encyclical. The encyclical was a monumental stance in addressing the serious global impacts of climate change.

"SCB members are the 'eyes and ears' of understanding climate change and how it affects natural and human communities," said Geri Unger, executive director at SCB. "It is imperative that conservation communities work with religious communities to protect ecosystems for future generations."

Dr. Vinciguerra will attend Exploring Outcomes of Interacting Religious, Spiritual, and Conservation Biology Communities from 13:30 – 15:00 and 15:30 – 17:00 in Sully 1 at Le Corum event center. He will also participate in the religious roundtable at 18:30 in Sully 1.

Members of the media are encouraged to talk to Dr. Vinciguerra before or after the religious roundtable event.

More than 2,000 biologists, scientists and conservation professionals are meeting this week in Montpellier, France to present and discuss new research in conservation science and practice. The 2015 ICCB-ECCB theme, "Mission **Biodiversity: Choosing new paths for conservation"** is a response to indications that many traditional methods for conserving biodiversity have failed to meet

expectations. It emphasizes the rapid and ongoing biophysical and societal changes that affect how biodiversity is protected today

Download the draft <u>ICCB-ECCB</u> schedule for a complete list of symposia, talks, and workshops/roundtables sessions that will take place in Montpellier.

On-site interviews will be available. If interested in scheduling an interview or if you are unable to attend, but would like to interview a speaker or presenter of a specific topic, please email Matt Herbert at <a href="mailto:mherbert@conbio.org">mherbert@conbio.org</a>. For French-speaking journalists, please contact: Nathalie Villemejeanne at <a href="mailto:villemejeanne@agropolis.fr">villemejeanne@agropolis.fr</a>.

Visit our <u>Press Room</u> for more information. Follow the Congress on Twitter: <u>@ICCB\_ECCB</u> and <u>Facebook</u>. When tweeting about the Congress, please include the hashtag <u>#ICCB2015</u>

The <u>Society for Conservation Biology</u> and the <u>Agropolis International</u> are the organizers of this event.

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