



The ancient amphitheatre at Delphi
where the closing session of the
Athens General Assembly was held.

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION
OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

TENTH ANNIVERSARY

1 9 4 8 - 1 9 5 8



IUCN
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OF I. U. C. N.

OR CONSERVATION
L RESOURCES

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Secretary - General :

M. C. Bloemers.

Assistant Secretary - General :

Marguerite Caram.

TO ATHENS AND DELPHI

58

MEMBERS OF HONOUR OF I. U. C. N.

- 1950 : Sir J. Huxley, F. R. S. (U. K.)
1952 : Hugh H. Bennett (U. S. A.)
1954 : A. Ghigi (Italy)
1956 : E. Laurence Palmer (U. S. A.)
1958 : Tuyosi Tamura (Japan)
1958 : W. Szafer (Poland)

November 1959.

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FROM FONTAINEBLEAU TO ATHENS AND DELPHI

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TEN YEARS

OF INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION OF NATURE

The forest of Fontainebleau, Nature sanctuary of the Ile de France, where the Union was born...

Photo: M. Mossot.



HISTORY

Fontainebleau — 5 October 1948 — The International Union for the Protection of Nature was founded by agreement among 130 delegates, representing 18 governments, 108 national institutions and 7 international organizations. The Conference which was to found the Union was organized at the initiative of the Swiss League for the Protection of Nature — it was convened under the auspices of the French Government and Unesco, and took place in the magnificent setting of the Château de Fontainebleau.

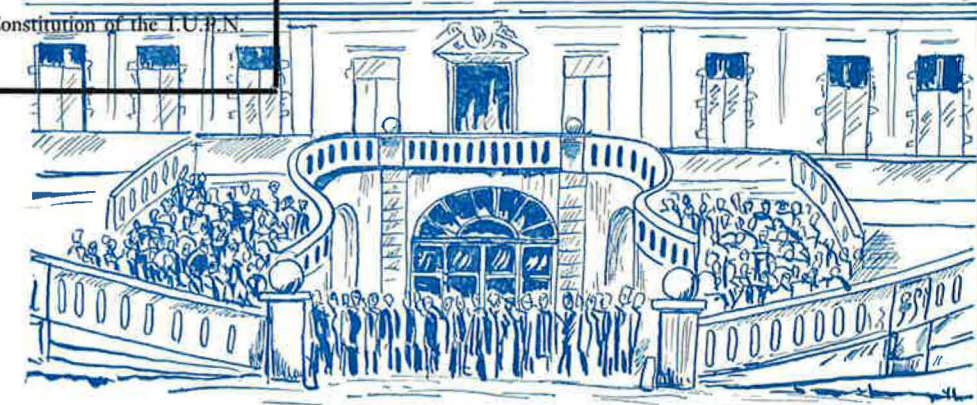


« The protection of nature is a matter of vital concern to all nations, and the furthering of it is the primary concern of no single effective international agency.

Therefore, the Governments, public services, organizations, institutions and associations concerned with these matters represented at Fontainebleau have hereby established a Union known as the International Union for the Protection of Nature ».

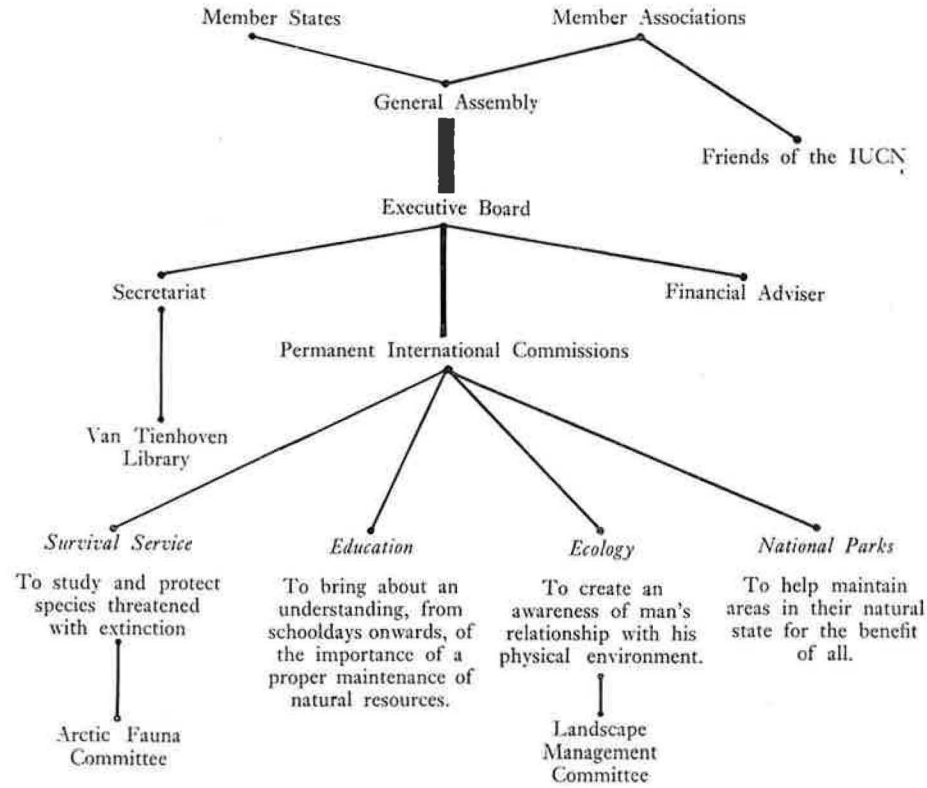
Extract from the Constitution of the I.U.P.N.

After signing the constitution of the new Union, the delegates part on the historical « escalier des adieux ».



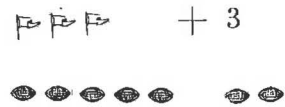
STRUCTURE

The Union is composed of states upon notifying the Secretary-General of their adhesion to the Constitution, and associations whose membership has been approved by the Executive Board and ratified by the General Assembly.



GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

Fontainebleau, October 1948.



Representation :

- 10 countries
- 1 international organization
- 10 national associations
- 10 participants

New adhesions

- 1 state
- 1 association



After the signing of the Constitution, ratification by:

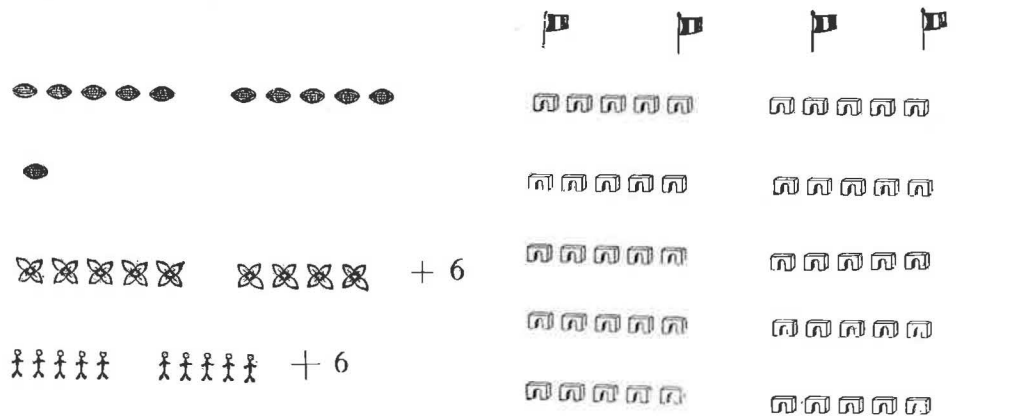


founder members.

Brussels - Belgium, October 1950.



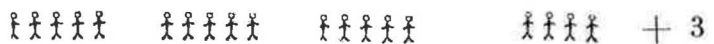
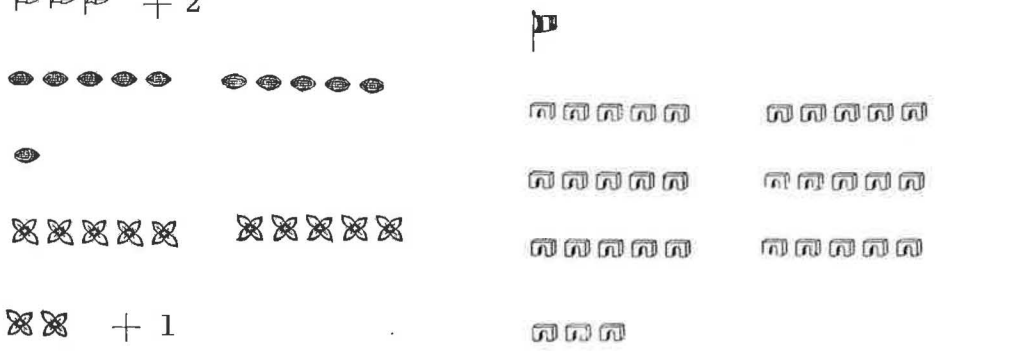
Switzerland Luxembourg Netherlands Belgium



Caracas - Venezuela, September 1952.



Denmark



Copenhagen - Denmark, September 1954.

FPF + 8



FPF + 5



FPF + 1

Edinburgh - Scotland, June 1956.

FPF + 7



FPF + 3



The I.U.P.N. becomes, by decision of the delegates present, the **International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.**

Athens - Greece, September 1958.

Adoption of the revised Constitution, establishing the Union's new name — an indication of its enlarged scope of action. « *Conservation and production are natural allies, not rivals.* »

Monaco Saar (*)



(*) Later incorporated in the German Federal Republic.

Venezuela



«We must place the accent on what is indispensable in order to attain what is useful, we must insist on economic imperatives in order to impose what concerns the mind only.»

ROGER HEIM: Introductory Address, Edinburgh, 20 June, 1956.

Sudan Morocco German Federal Republic Cambodia



PRESIDENTS

- 1948-1954** Dr. Charles J. Bernard, Geneva, Switzerland; President of the Swiss League for the Protection of Nature.
- 1954-1958** Professor Roger Heim, Paris; de l'Institut de France, Director of the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle.
- 1958** Professor Jean G. Baer, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

VICE-PRESIDENTS

- 1948-1954** Dr. H. J. Coolidge, Jr. — United States.
- 1948-1950** Mr. H. G. Maurice — United Kingdom.
- 1948-1952** Prof. Roger Heim — France.
- 1950-1951** Dr. G. F. Herbert-Smith — United Kingdom.
- 1952-1956** Mr. W. H. Phelps Jr. — Venezuela.
- 1954** The Rt. Hon. Lord Hurcomb — United Kingdom.
- 1954-1956** Mr. M. C. Bloemers — Netherlands.
- 1956** Prof. V. Van Straelen — Belgium.
- 1956-1958** Prof. E. Beltran — Mexico.
- 1958** Dr. H. J. Coolidge, Jr. — United States.

HONORARY TREASURER

- 1956** Mr. A. de Launoit — Belgium.

FINANCIAL ADVISER

- 1956-1958** Mr. M. C. Bloemers — Netherlands.
- 1958** Mr. W. Burhenne — German Federal Republic.

SECRETARIES-GENERAL

- 1948-1955** Mr. Jean-Paul Harroy, then Secretary-General of the Institute for Scientific Research in Central Africa, now Governor of the Ruanda-Urundi.

« Protégeons la Nature, elle nous le rendra. »

J.-P. Harroy.

« Nature protection is not a science; it is an educational crossroad which, to safeguard humanity from an excess of applied science, needs the help of the most varied branches of knowledge, not only in the fields of biology and ecology, but also of political economy, of law, of administrative organization, and of social science. »

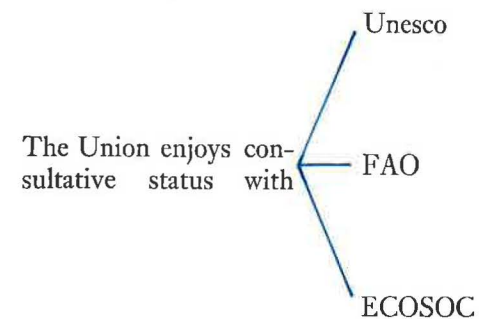
J.-P. Harroy (Bull. Vol. II, 6, Nov. 53)

1956-1958 Mr. Tracy Philipps,
M. C., Dr. h. c.
1958 Mr. M. C. Bloemers.

« In the countries where population density is in the process of outstripping the food production from a worn-out soil, the better techniques of practical conservation become essential to human survival itself. »

Tracy Philipps.

RELATIONS WITH UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES



« With regard to conservation of resources, the Union must serve as a link between the scientific and educational work of Unesco and that of FAO which concerns itself with world agriculture and nutrition. »

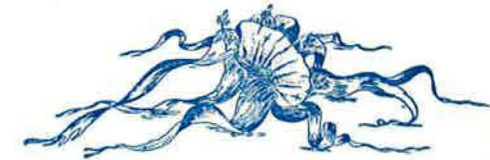
The Acting Director-General of FAO.

TECHNICAL MEETINGS

Through the presence of experts coming from the five continents, through the discussions and the resulting exchange of ideas, these conferences constitute in a sense the sessions of a « World Parliament » on the Conservation of Nature.

1949. — Lake Success, United States of America :

- Education and Nature Protection.
- Basic problems of ecological research in relation to the conservation of natural resources (planned enterprises, insecticides, introduction of exotic species, decrease of the great herds of large mammals, etc.).
- Establishment of the Survival Service.



1951. — The Hague, Netherlands :

- Management of nature reserves.
- Rural landscape as a habitat of flora and fauna in densely populated countries.



1952. — Caracas, Venezuela :

- The consequences of large-scale dams.
- Bush fires.
- Wildlife in semi-arid regions.
- Endemic species of small islands.



1953. — Salzburg, Austria :

- Protection of nature and tourism.
- Protection of fauna and flora at high altitudes.

1954. — Copenhagen, Denmark :

- Arctic fauna.
- Effects of modern insecticides on mammals, birds and insects.

1956. — Edinburgh, Scotland :

- Management of nature reserves on the basis of modern scientific knowledge.
- Rehabilitation of areas biologically devastated by human disturbance.
- Relationship of ecology to landscape planning.
- Biological consequences of myxomatosis.

1958. — Athens, Greece:

- Relation between soil degradation and the decline of civilizations.
- Conservation of soil and water, especially in semi-arid regions.
- Endangered flora and fauna of the Mediterranean regions.

« Through its publications, its official contacts with governments and its periodic conferences, the Union constitutes an international forum for discussion of problems relating to the use of resources, unique of its kind. »

Annual Report of The New York Conservation Foundation, 1957.

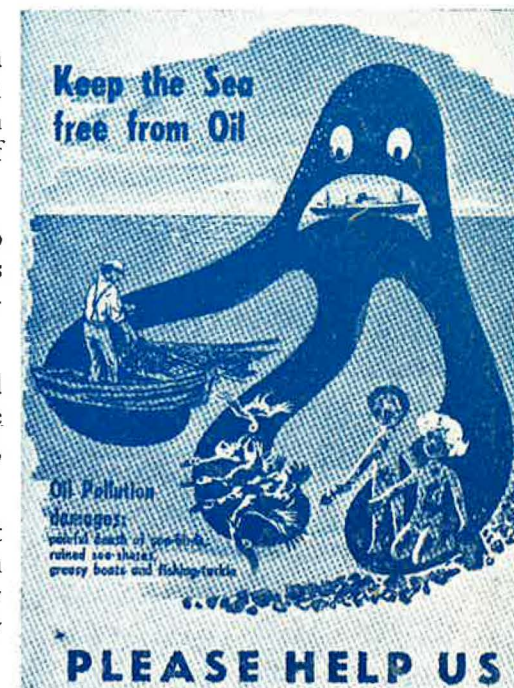
INTERVENTIONS

The Union, warned by its members, advised by its regular correspondents or its specialized commissions, has been able to intervene directly with governmental authorities to draw their attention to the dangers threatening the natural resources of their countries. We cite, among the more notable of these activities, certain approaches which were received with understanding and followed by constructive action:

- To the Governments of Belgium, Great Britain, France, the Netherlands and Switzerland to point out the devastation of regions of ecological interest through their use as practice targets by the army (dunes, Camargue, etc.).
- To the New Zealand Government, in defence of the magnificent relic forest of Waipoua-Kauri.
- To the Austrian Government, to strengthen the efforts of nature protection and tourist associations to prevent the Krimml Falls, the highest in Europe, from being diverted for hydro-electric purposes.
- To authorities of French Somaliland and Madagascar, to urge them to provide better protection within their territories to certain rare species of plants and animals.
- To the French Government, to prevent the installation, in the Forest of Fontainebleau, of the Military School of Saint-Cyr, and thus eliminate a threat

to the reserve. — Another intervention to avoid construction of a main road which was to cross the Massif des Trois Pignons in this forest.

- To the Indian and Indonesian authorities, to reinforce protective measures to safeguard the One-horned Rhinoceros and the Asiatic Lion.
- To the Japanese Government, in support of protection for a rare botanical species: the Cryptomerias of Jaku-Shima.
- To the Belgian Government, to protest against the extension of the open season for the capture of song-birds by snares or nets.
- To the Italian Government, to strengthen the laws for protection in the Circeo National Park, and also in support of the conservation of the region of San Rossore.
- To the Colombian Government, to warn them against introduction of the mongoose, proposed to counteract the abundance of venomous snakes.
- To the Venezuelan Government, to stimulate the establishment of the Agua-Larga National Park in the State of Falcon.
- To the Governments of Sweden, Norway and Finland, to strengthen the laws protecting certain species of arctic fauna.
- To the Governments represented at the London conference on oil pollution of the seas, to enjoin them to ratify the International Convention designed to end the notorious pollution of ocean waters and coasts.
- To the Government of Ecuador, in order to facilitate a mission to the Galapagos Islands with the ultimate goal of studying and preserving the fauna and flora of the archipelago.
- To the competent authorities in the United States, in support of the preservation of the Key Deer, and of the Rock Creek Park, Washington, D. C.
- To the authorities of Tanganyika, to urge that the findings of the ecological survey made in the Serengeti National Park be considered by the committee responsible for establishing new boundaries for the national park.



INVESTIGATIONS

- On the species of mammals listed by the Survival Service. Information is compiled concerning their history, biology, their geographic distribution, their ethology, the dangers that menace them, protective measures already undertaken and those to be recommended to the territorial authorities. The study is still going on. A number of approaches have been made to the authorities concerned.
- A questionnaire addressed to all nations to enquire about measures taken in their territories for the conservation of natural resources. Results from 101 countries have appeared in « The Position of Nature Protection Throughout the World in 1950 » (1951) and its Addendum (1952), published with the financial assistance of Unesco.



- As a contribution to the Conference of Bukavu on the protection of African Fauna and Flora (following the London Convention of 1933), an extensive survey was undertaken among the signatory Governments of that Convention to determine precisely to what extent its provisions were being carried out effectively. The answers are recorded in the proceedings of that conference, prepared by the Union and published by the Belgian Colonial Ministry (1953).

- An index of films on the protection of nature and the conservation of resources was undertaken on the basis of a world inquiry (financed by Unesco).
- Compilation of data and photographic documentation on the subject of nature reserves of the world in preparation for the book « Derniers Refuges ».

Further :

- How to secure a census of wildlife ?
- Should the numbers of larger animals in national parks be controlled when their increase constitutes a menace to their habitat ?
- Is conservation of natural resources being taught in schools all over the world ?
- Should crocodiles be protected ?
etc.



MISSIONS

1954-1955. — An American patron, Mr. Russel M. Arundel, provided the Union with the funds needed to send an ecologist to conduct certain field investigations on the status of mammals studied by the Survival Service. Lee Talbot, of the University of California, was responsible for the mission, which ranged from Egypt to the Middle East and as far as south-east Asia, India and Indonesia. He has brought back careful observations, complete data, a vast photographic record and at the same time established many useful contacts for the Union.

Indian One-horned Rhinoceros.

Photo: Lee Talbot



1956-1957.

Jean-Jacques and Arlette Petter spent a year in Madagascar, on a mission for the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle de Paris and the Conseil national pour la Recherche scientifique en France to which the Union gave sponsorship. Several years earlier, Jean-Jacques Petter had been in charge of the work of the Survival Service; the observations, recommendations, photographs and the remarkable colour film of the lemurs which he has produced as a result of his mission have enriched the documentation of this Service.

1957. — With the aid of the Government of Ecuador, the Union secured from Unesco the requisite funds for a young Austrian scientist, Dr. I. Eibl-Eibesfeldt, attached to the Max-Planck Institut für Verhaltensphysiologie of Seewiesen, Federal Germany, to undertake an inventory of associations of plants and animals of the Galapagos Archipelago and to determine the most favourable site for the

The Aye-aye of Madagascar.

Photo: J.-J. Petter.



establishment of a Research and Conservation station (Darwin Biological Station.) The financial aid of the New York Zoological Society and the American Section of the International Committee for Bird Preservation has enabled Dr. R. Bowman of California to join this mission, to which Life Magazine contributed by sending a photographer and an artist. The results of the mission are being used to determine the practical methods for establishing and maintaining the station.

Marine Iguanas (Galapagos)

Photo: Eibl-Eibesfeldt.



1958. — Attached to the Union as Ecologist, Roger Balleydier, of the Moroccan Service des Eaux et Forêts, completed a six-month mission, sponsored and financed by Unesco, designed to collect material for teaching the rural peoples of the Arab nations the care which must be given to the land if it is to remain fertile, or recover its fertility. Stationed in Egypt at the Unesco Arab States Fundamental Education Centre (ASFEC), he travelled over several Near East countries to acquaint himself with local conditions. Educational material prepared in Arabic by ASFEC will be transmitted to the Governments for use in schools. It is based on the earlier achievements of the Union in the educational field, especially on its publication, « The Earth is our Asset ».

SOME OF THE UNION'S ACHIEVEMENTS

— Stimulation or intervention in several countries which contributed to the establishment of such national bodies as :

- Hellenic Society for the Protection of Nature.
- Mexican Society for the Protection of Nature.
- Cuban Society for the Protection and Conservation of Nature.
- Portuguese Society for the Protection of Nature.
- Indian Board for Wildlife.
- Entente Nationale Belge pour la Protection de la Nature.
- Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel.
- Comité mixte des Amis de la Nature et des Paysages en Corse.
- Association des naturalistes « Conservation de la Nature », Nice.
- Commission internationale pour les régions alpines.
- Commission nationale pour la Conservation de la Nature et de ses Ressources au Maroc.

— International youth camps for the study and protection of nature. Since 1952, these camps have taken place annually: study groups and outdoor laboratories bringing together the young scientists and teachers of tomorrow.

— The establishment in 1956, under the auspices and guidance of the Union, of the International Youth Federation for Study and Protection of Nature.

— The proceedings of the Union's conferences (containing reports and discussions), as well as other publications, constitute a basic library for international conservation of nature.

— The organization, in the Philippines, on the occasion of the Eighth Pacific Science Congress, of a conference of experts on the site of the Ambuklao Dam.

— First publication, in 1952, of the Union's modest « Information Bulletin », which began with 3,000 copies, and now runs to 9,500. It is distributed in 124 countries and territories and is quoted in five continents.

— Establishment of « Friends of the Union ».

— A basic lesson on conservation was adapted and used in 15 countries in 7 languages.

— Publication, in the series « Pro Natura », of « Fossils of Tomorrow » and « Hydro-electricity and the Protection of Nature, Stating the Case ».

— Production of film-strips for teaching conservation of nature and for use with lectures on this subject.

— Publication of an Atlas of Nature Reserves Derniers Refuges, in French and Dutch (Elsevier). An English edition is being prepared.



Heading for Australia.

« This work fills a gap in the documentation of conservationists. Even for those familiar with these questions, a great deal of the information is new, most of the illustrations are unpublished and the maps throw light on the present situation. »

« ... a mine of valuable information and a first-class instrument of publicity. »

« This is certainly the most important reference work in the field of wild life preservation that has appeared for many years. »

Extracts from letters to the Union.

- Participation in various exhibitions. A series of panels, « Balance and Unbalance in Nature », financed by Unesco, began its travels in 1955 in Paris at the exhibition organized by the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle « Man against Nature ». They were shown in 1958 at the World Exhibition in Brussels.

AND SOME PROJECTS ...

which the Union hopes to realize on condition that it can count on the assistance of its members and international sympathy:

- To extend its mission of conservation education to Africa and Asia.
- To introduce conservation teaching in school curricula of all countries.
- To undertake an extensive series of studies on certain subjects which have not yet been dealt with on an international level, such as:
 - The needs and behaviour of tourists in natural environments: their relations with the physical world around them.
 - Criteria and regulation in the use of pesticides.
 - Bush fires.
 - Inter-relationships between human populations, plant and animal associations, and the soil: (inquiry to be undertaken in a key territory by a team of specialists in the various disciplines of natural and social sciences).
- To strengthen its position as counsellor and arbiter in conservation affairs by enabling its specialized international commissions to carry out field investigations when their advice is sought.

