



NEW SERIES Vol. 3, No. 1

JANUARY 1972

Published with the financial assistance of UNESCO

## ***IUCN Viewpoint***

### ***A convention for species threatened by trade***

International trade in wild animals and plants and their products must be controlled if valuable resources are not to be exhausted by overexploitation, and certain species brought to extinction. To meet this need, IUCN, since its 8th General Assembly in Nairobi in 1963, has been working towards an International Convention to conserve species threatened by trade. The Union therefore welcomes the intergovernmental meeting which will be convened by the US Government in Washington in April 1972 to conclude such a Convention based on the IUCN draft.

The Convention avoids interference with legitimate international commerce in those species which are capable of withstanding controlled exploitation and which in this way make valuable contributions to the economies of developing countries.

It is concerned solely with those species which are affected by international trade to the extent that their populations are declining or are even threatened with extinction. It cannot deal with reductions of populations from other causes, such as habitat destruction or causes operating at the national level.

The draft Convention has been prepared in the light of comments from governments, received in response to two earlier drafts which had been submitted to almost 100 nations, and in addition, to relevant intergovernmental bodies.

Regulation is imposed primarily at the point of origin through export permits. Exporting countries are left in control of their resources and are able to restrict the number of permits, including complete bans on export of species, as they deem necessary. Importing countries agree to prohibit entry of material not covered by export permits.

Control is at two levels: (1) a general control, as outlined, of species with decreasing populations menaced by trade; and, (2) a virtual ban on trade in species which are threatened with extinction.

Suggestions have been made that this general control would not protect a number of species the populations of which are decreasing only in one country whilst remaining abundant elsewhere. However, experience shows that most, if not all, decreasing species which are affected by international trade are suffering population

decreases throughout their range. It is a matter for states adhering to the Convention to decide which species shall be covered.

Export permits are to be issued only after the lawful nature of the killing, capture or collection of the specimen has been verified. Export permits will be monitored and corrective action taken if the number of permits issued for any species is such as to affect adversely its populations.

More restrictive measures apply to populations threatened with extinction, since export and import permits will only be granted for the scientific purposes considered legitimate by both importing and exporting countries.

The Convention will not prevent adhering states from imposing stricter measures affecting commerce in wildlife or its products under their own legislation.

When the Convention becomes operative it will be a most significant step forward for wildlife conservation throughout the world. It will provide the first legal and administrative structure for global cooperation whereby nations can support each other's wildlife conservation laws, and join in protecting threatened species.

The Convention may not go far enough for some groups, while others may feel that it goes too far. It will not halt all unwarranted exploitation of wildlife but will strive towards rational use on a sustainable yield basis. The Convention will help in halting the alarming decline of certain populations of wildlife and in ending the commercial exploitation of endangered species.

It is to be regretted that progress towards this treaty, on which many nations have already agreed, has been opposed by some conservationists who have either not read it or have not understood it. A stronger treaty could be framed if all nations would agree to it, but some have already made it clear that they will not. The treaty will only be of consequence if a significant number of countries adhere to it, including the major exporters and importers of wildlife. IUCN hopes that its members will support the Convention and press for its ratification in their own countries.

### ***MAB gets started***

After two weeks of deliberation in Paris, 9-19 November, the 25 nations that formed the Intergovernmental Coordinating Council of the Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB) reached agreement on the programme's new look. In place of the original 31 themes that were included in the draft programme approved by the UNESCO General Conference in 1970, 13 themes are now included. These are far ranging in content and include at one extreme the study of undisturbed ecosystems and, at the other, an investigation of the environmental implications of energy use by urban-industrial societies. A new emphasis, believed to be lacking in the original programme, is on man's impact on the environment and conversely the effects of this on man himself. Thus the social sciences will play a larger role in this inter-disciplinary programme than was originally intended. Much greater emphasis has been placed on environmental education than was obvious earlier in the development of the programme, and this will include both public education and the training of environmental experts.

The Intergovernmental Coordinating Council will meet to re-examine the programme early in 1973 after the results of the Stockholm Conference and of Unesco's next General Conference are available. In the meanwhile the programme will be carried forward by a bureau, headed by Professor F. Bourlière of France and consisting of Professor Kovda (USSR), Dr. King (USA), Professor Kassas (Egypt) and Professor Misra (India). They will be assisted by panels of experts who will be convened to further define the areas and methods of study and by an *ad hoc* Working Group with the responsibility for coordinating the results produced by the expert panels.



### NEW VIEWS

#### Creation by this

The Commission on the Status of Women, established in 1946, has been working for the advancement of women's rights and status in all countries. It has held several sessions and has produced a number of reports and recommendations. The Commission's work is based on the principle of equality of men and women in all spheres of life. It has been particularly active in the field of education, employment, and social services. The Commission has also been instrumental in the development of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, which was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1979. This Convention is the first international treaty that deals specifically with the rights of women. It sets out a comprehensive framework for the elimination of discrimination against women in all areas of life. The Commission continues to monitor the implementation of the Convention and to provide technical assistance to countries in need. Its work is essential for the achievement of gender equality and the advancement of women's status in all societies.

The Commission on the Status of Women, established in 1946, has been working for the advancement of women's rights and status in all countries. It has held several sessions and has produced a number of reports and recommendations. The Commission's work is based on the principle of equality of men and women in all spheres of life. It has been particularly active in the field of education, employment, and social services. The Commission has also been instrumental in the development of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, which was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1979. This Convention is the first international treaty that deals specifically with the rights of women. It sets out a comprehensive framework for the elimination of discrimination against women in all areas of life. The Commission continues to monitor the implementation of the Convention and to provide technical assistance to countries in need. Its work is essential for the achievement of gender equality and the advancement of women's status in all societies.

Of the 13 research themes, IUCN now has active projects in 11. Some, such as theme 8, represent the central focus of IUCN's activities. Furthermore, the educational programme of MAB is complementary to the work of IUCN's Commission on Education. IUCN will be involved closely with the activities of the Panel of Experts and Working Group and it is expected that close coordination will develop between the activities of the two organizations.

The future of MAB, however, now depends on the willingness of governments to appropriate funds for its implementation and on the availability of international support for the programmes involving developing countries.

#### MAB research themes

1. Ecological effects of changes in human activities on tropical and sub-tropical forest ecosystems.
2. The ecological effects of management practices and land uses on the temperate and mediterranean forest landscape.
3. The impact of human activities and land use practices on grazing lands: savanna, grassland, tundra.
4. Study of the human impact on dynamics of arid and semi-arid zone ecosystems, with particular attention to the effects of irrigation.
5. The ecological effects of human activities in urban, industrial and rural areas on productivity and recreational value of lakes, marshes, rivers, deltas, estuaries and coastal zones.
6. The impact of human activities on mountain ecosystems.
7. Ecological and rational use of island ecosystems.
8. The conservation of ecosystems and populations of plants and animals and of the genetic variation they represent.
9. The effect of pest management and fertilizer use practices on terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.
10. Effects on man and his environment of engineering works.
11. Energetic impacts of urban and industrial ecosystems.
12. Environmental consequences of demographic transformations.
13. The perception of environmental quality.

### **Conservation and commercial exploitation of kangaroos**

The Australian kangaroo industry is an interesting case study in wildlife management and sustainable yield harvesting of an important natural resource.

The large kangaroos have increased in numbers with improvements in their habitat since stocking with sheep and cattle began. At certain times and at some places, they are sufficiently numerous to be regarded as pastoral pests. Australian wildlife authorities have permitted harvesting under controlled conditions, so that the greatest possible use can be made of the animals that have to be destroyed in the interest of the primary producer, and a considerable industry in meat and skins has resulted.

Increased public concern about this industry caused the Select Committee on Wildlife Conservation set up by the Australian Parliament to issue an interim report on kangaroos (November 1971), based on extensive public hearings and field inspections which have taken more than a year.

The Committee found that none of the four large species of kangaroo is under present threat of extinction whether from destruction of habitat, drought or commercial harvesting, or from any combination of those factors, except for the fully-protected Forester kangaroo, a Tasmania sub-species of the eastern grey kangaroo, which is threatened due to habitat loss.

#### **Bulletin changes**

With this issue of the Bulletin we begin a new volume in a revised form designed to bring you more information about the IUCN programme, more often. The Bulletin will be published monthly, in a standard 4-page format. Periodically, a larger issue will contain longer articles and special material such as resolutions of important conferences, Red Data Book lists, etc.

Standard issues will contain a statement of opinions on the first page, several shorter articles and a number of departments in which various Union programmes and activities will be summarized briefly.

We are eager to make the Bulletin more useful and interesting. To that end comments by members would be appreciated. Please address them to the Editor.

In contrast, a number of smaller species are either threatened with extinction or are thought to be extinct. It is significant that none of these species has been utilized commercially and that habitat loss is the major reason for their decline. The Committee indicated that too little attention had been given to these smaller species.

The Committee accepted scientific opinion on the abundance of the large kangaroos. Reduction of numbers is still necessary and, if this is not carried out by the industry it would need to be done by property owners, or by wildlife authorities at public expense.

Accordingly the Committee decided that there is no requirement for a ban on commercial exploitation of kangaroos. It took the view that the position needs to be continually monitored, and that continuous research on the larger kangaroo species is necessary. The Report states that the interests of the kangaroo industry should be subservient to both the needs of conservation and the primary producer, and controlled in such a way by the relevant fauna authorities as to meet these needs rather than to guarantee a regular supply to the industry.

Numbers of kangaroos harvested in Australia have exceeded 1 million a year over the past decade or so, and exports of kangaroo meat and skins were valued at \$A 1,847,000 in 1970-1971. The industry employs about 5,400 people with a wages bill of over \$A 12 million. It represents a total investment of about \$A 14 million.

The kangaroo is basically a nocturnal animal. Claims made that the difficulty of sighting kangaroos in their natural habitat is solely due to overharvesting is, in the Committee's opinion, an oversimplification. Evidence was given indicating that ease of sighting may in fact be a sign of overpopulation.

Recommendations of the Committee include continuation of controls over the harvesting of kangaroos, and collection of royalties from commercial kangaroo shooting, with the proceeds being used for wildlife conservation. Proposals are also made for controlling the export of kangaroo skins to ensure that local requirements of Australian manufacturers are met, and that regulations for export of live fauna be liberalized to allow kangaroos to be collected and reared by Australian zoos for export to approved overseas zoos.

Strong support is given in the Report to the importance of more research on the ecology of kangaroos, and for setting aside large areas of land as national parks and reserves for kangaroos and other native fauna.

#### **Correction**

In the last IUCN Bulletin (Vol. 2, No. 21, page 184) the photo caption on Bayerischer Wald failed to point out that a number of the animals listed, particularly wolves, lynxes and European bison, are confined in border enclosures and do not range freely in the park. The caption erroneously listed alpine marmot and bears. Marmot are not present. Eventually bears may be included among the species in enclosures. We regret these errors.

**Bulletin changes**

With this issue of the Bulletin we begin a new volume in a revised form designed to bring you more information about the IUCN programme more often. The Bulletin will be published monthly in a standard 4 page format. Periodically a larger issue will contain longer articles and special material such as resolutions of important conferences. Red Data Book lists etc.

Standard issues will contain a statement of opinions on the last page, several shorter articles and a number of departments in which various Union programmes and activities will be summarised briefly.

We are eager to make the Bulletin more useful and interesting. To that end comments by members would be appreciated. Please address them to the Editor.

In contrast a number of smaller species are threatened with extinction or are thought to be extinct. It is significant that none of these species has been listed as endangered and that habitat loss is the major reason for their decline. The Committee realised that the little attention had been given to these species and the Committee accepted scientific opinion on the abundance of the large kangaroo. Reduction of numbers is still necessary and if this is not carried out by the industry it would need to be done by government or by wildlife authorities at public expense.

Accordingly the Committee decided that there is an opportunity for a ban on commercial exportation of kangaroos if that ban is the common sense to be consistently applied and the committee decided on the larger kangaroo species as a priority. The report states that the intensity of the kangaroo industry should be reduced in the light of the fact that kangaroos are a renewable resource and that the industry should be controlled so as to ensure that the kangaroo population is maintained at a level which will ensure a steady supply of kangaroos for the industry. The report also states that the kangaroo population should be maintained at a level which will ensure a steady supply of kangaroos for the industry. The report also states that the kangaroo population should be maintained at a level which will ensure a steady supply of kangaroos for the industry.

The kangaroo industry is a major source of income for many people in Australia and it is important that the industry be controlled so as to ensure that the kangaroo population is maintained at a level which will ensure a steady supply of kangaroos for the industry. The report also states that the kangaroo population should be maintained at a level which will ensure a steady supply of kangaroos for the industry.

**Convention**

In the last IUCN Bulletin (Vol. 1, No. 11, page 184) we gave a report on the Convention which was held in London in 1971. The Convention was held in London in 1971 and was attended by representatives from many countries. The Convention was held in London in 1971 and was attended by representatives from many countries.

Of the 12 research studies which have been carried out in 11 years, only 2 have been published. The IUCN's research programme is being carried out in the work of the IUCN's Commission on Education, IUCN will be working closely with the various of the IUCN's research and working groups and in particular with the Commission on Education, IUCN will be working closely with the various of the IUCN's research and working groups and in particular with the Commission on Education.

**IUCN research studies**

1. Ecological effects of changes in human activities on tropical and sub-tropical forest ecosystems.
2. The ecological effects of management practices and land uses on the kangaroo and macropod community landscape.
3. The impact of human activities and land use changes on grazing lands: savanna, grassland, rangelands.
4. Study of the human impact on dynamics of one and semi-arid zone ecosystems with particular attention to the effects of irrigation.
5. The ecological effects of human activities in arid, industrial and rural areas on biodiversity and natural values of lakes, rivers, wetlands, floodplains, estuaries and coastal zones.
6. The impact of human activities on mountain ecosystems.
7. Ecology and habitat use of island rewilding.
8. The consequences of overgrazing and overhunting of plants and animals and of the resulting reduction in biodiversity.
9. The effect of land management and habitat use practices on terrestrial and marine ecosystems.
10. Effects on sea level and environment of high-sea fishing.
11. Ecological impact of human activities on ecosystems.
12. Environmental consequences of technological development.
13. The assessment of environmental quality.

**Conservation and commercial exploitation of kangaroos**

The kangaroo industry is a major source of income for many people in Australia and it is important that the industry be controlled so as to ensure that the kangaroo population is maintained at a level which will ensure a steady supply of kangaroos for the industry. The report also states that the kangaroo population should be maintained at a level which will ensure a steady supply of kangaroos for the industry.

The kangaroo industry is a major source of income for many people in Australia and it is important that the industry be controlled so as to ensure that the kangaroo population is maintained at a level which will ensure a steady supply of kangaroos for the industry. The report also states that the kangaroo population should be maintained at a level which will ensure a steady supply of kangaroos for the industry.

## Programme Activities

### **IUCN/WWF Joint Project Operations**

Since 1961 IUCN has enjoyed a symbiotic relationship with the World Wildlife Fund, with which it works throughout the world on projects of mutual interest.

Because of their increasingly close activities, IUCN and WWF have now decided on joint operation of the various projects with which both are concerned in order to make the most effective use of available facilities, funds and manpower. In the future, projects submitted to, or organized by, either IUCN or WWF will be the concern of the joint Secretariats of the two bodies.

Project operations will be carried out by Project Officers appointed by either IUCN or WWF to act on behalf of both and under the control of the chief executives of both Secretariats.

Correspondence relating to projects and their execution is now being handled on letter-paper carrying the title "IUCN/WWF Joint Project Operations." This will be standard practice, irrespective of any earlier correspondence that may have been sent out on behalf of either IUCN or WWF. In addition, IUCN will adopt the WWF project numbering system.

### **Programme priorities**

The World Wildlife Fund and IUCN have evolved a system of priorities to ensure concentration on critical conservation problems. They hope thereby to stimulate governments, states, and international agencies to follow suit. Current priorities are:

1. Conservation of endangered habitats, particularly in wetlands, lowland tropical rain forests, cloud forests, oceanic islands, coastal and estuarine zones, circumpolar regions, desert and semi-desert areas and high mountains.

2. Conservation of the following threatened groups of animals and plants, including regulation of trade:

Mammals – Threatened primates, in particular the lemurians and great apes; whales; carnivores; seals; rhinoceros; vicuña and other endangered ungulates.

Birds – Birds of prey, wildfowl, bustards

Reptiles – Marine turtles, crocodilians

Plants – Threatened species, especially among orchids and succulents

3. Environmental monitoring of biological parameters, environmental planning, including special attention to threatened landscapes; environmental policy, law and administration.

4. Promotion of programmes of conservation education, notably training courses, production of educational materials and audio-visual aids.

5. Conservation programmes in key areas or countries, particularly in East Africa, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Brazil, Middle America, Galapagos Islands (Ecuador), Peru, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan and the Philippines.

### **IUCN/WWF undertake jaguar and ocelot survey**

A project to determine the geographical distribution and legal and biological status of the jaguar and ocelot in tropical America and to study their population dynamics and rate of off-take for commercialization has been launched by IUCN/WWF. The project will involve the accumulation of data by correspondence and study of literature together with about 8 months of field studies.

The object of the project is to provide information needed in planning programmes to ensure the continued existence of viable populations of jaguar and ocelot and to ensure rational cropping on a long-term basis. It is clear that the present level of off-take is making severe inroads into these species, particularly at a time when their habitat is being actively and extensively destroyed or changed over large areas.

The project investigator is Dr. Carl B. Koford, University of California research zoologist, who has many years of experience in the Latin American countries where the two species occur. He has already begun the work in Mexico.

The International Fur Trade Federation in September 1970 felt that a moratorium on trade in these cats' pelts was not called for under present circumstances, and that data based on surveys was required as a base for planning further action. Accordingly they agreed to sponsor an IUCN/WWF survey to determine the actual status of the jaguar and ocelot in South America.

World Wildlife Fund is providing basic funding for the survey.

### **Polar bear specialists to meet 7-10 February**

Specialists on polar bears will gather in Morges 7 to 10 February 1972 to review research and conservation progress, and to coordinate plans for the continuing collaborative study of the depleted populations of these animals.

This will be the third working meeting of polar bear scientists from five circumpolar nations – Canada, Denmark, Norway, the USA and the USSR – who have been involved in the co-operative programme.

IUCN has had responsibility since 1965 for collating scientific research data on the big carnivores.

In addition to reports from each country on research and conservation progress, and planning for the future work of the group, the agenda will include discussion of a possible international convention for research and/or conservation of the polar bear.

### **1972 IUCN Conferences and Meetings**

(List *does not* include meetings at which IUCN will take part as a co-sponsor or participant.)

1972

7-10 Feb.	SSC Polar Bear Group	Morges, Switzerland
24 March	Environmental Planning Commission	Morges, Switzerland
28-29 April	Survival Service Commission	Jersey, Channel Islands
May	Committee on the Improvement of Cultural Landscapes, Environmental Planning Commission	Czechoslovakia
July	East Europe Committee, Commission on Education – International Seminar on Environmental Education in School Curriculum in East-European Countries	High Tatra or Pienins Natl Park, Czechoslovakia/Poland
17-18 Aug.	SSC Seal Group	Guelph, Ontario, Canada
19 Aug.	SSC Primate Group	Portland, Ore., USA
5-6 Sept.	Pre-Assembly Workshop on Environment	London, Ontario, Canada
9 Sept.	Meetings of all IUCN Commissions	Banff, Canada
10-16 Sept.	Eleventh General Assembly and Twelfth Technical Meeting	Banff, Canada
18-27 Sept.	Second World Conference on National Parks	Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks, Wyoming, USA
September	SSC Wolf Group	Algonquin, Ontario, Canada

IUCN/WWF Joint Project Questions

Since 1981 IUCN has enjoyed a special relationship with the World Wildlife Fund which it works throughout the world on behalf of natural resources. Because of their complementary objectives IUCN and WWF have now decided on joint questions of the various projects with which both are concerned in order to make the most effective use of available financial funds and manpower. In the future projects identified as to be organized by either IUCN or WWF will be the concern of the least concerned of the two bodies. Project operations will be shared with Project Officers appointed by either IUCN or WWF to act on behalf of both and under the control of the joint executive of both Secretariats.

Cooperation relating to projects and their execution is now being handled on a joint basis covering the title "IUCN/WWF Joint Project Questions". This will be a standard practice representative of any other cooperation that may have been set out in detail in either IUCN or WWF in addition. IUCN will adopt the WWF project numbering system.

Programme Activities

The World Wildlife Fund and IUCN have evolved a system of projects to ensure conservation of natural resources. They have thereby to ensure government, state and national agencies to follow self-commitment and:

1. Conservation of endangered habitats, particularly in wetlands, forests, parks, reserves, and other areas of scientific, historical and cultural interest.
2. Conservation of the natural heritage of the world and other areas of scientific, historical and cultural interest.
3. Conservation of the natural heritage of the world and other areas of scientific, historical and cultural interest.
4. Promotion of programmes of conservation education, notably training courses, production of educational materials and audio-visual aids.
5. Conservation programmes in low areas or countries, particularly in the African, Asian, Latin American, Pacific, Middle Eastern, Caribbean Islands (Caribbean), and other areas.

IUCN/WWF Underwater Vegetation and Coral Survey

A project is designed to investigate the geographical distribution and local and global status of the genus and order in various habitats and to study the population dynamics in each of the areas. An international team has been formed by IUCN/WWF. The project will involve the collection of data by correspondence and study of literature together with about 2 months of field studies. The object of the project is to provide information needed in planning programmes to ensure the continued existence of viable populations of coral and other species in areas national mapping on a long-term basis. It is noted that the present level of the lake is causing serious effects on the species, particularly in areas where the lake is being actively and extensively developed or changed over large areas.

The project is directed by Dr. Carl B. Koford, University of California, San Diego, who has many years of experience in the Latin American countries where the two species occur. He has already begun the work in Mexico. The international field expedition in September 1979 will first a reconnaissance of the study area and then data based on surveys will be reported as a basis for planning further action. Accordingly, data based on species in IUCN/WWF survey to determine the actual status of the genus and order in South America. World Wildlife Fund is providing basic funding for the survey.

Polar Bear Specialists to meet 7-10 February

Specialists in polar bears will gather in Moscow 7 to 10 February 1977 to review research and conservation progress and to coordinate plans for the continuing collaborative study of the depleted population of these animals. This will be the third working meeting of polar bear scientists from five European nations - Canada, Denmark, Norway, the USA and the USSR - who have been involved in the co-operative programme. IUCN has had responsibility since 1972 for collecting scientific research data on the big carnivore. In addition to reports from each country on research and conservation progress, and planning for the future work of the group, the agenda will include discussion of a possible international convention for research and conservation of the polar bear.

1978 IUCN Conferences and Meetings

List of dates include activities in which IUCN will take part as a co-organiser or sponsor.

Date	Activity	Location
1-10 Feb	222 Polar Bear Group Meeting	Moscow, USSR
12 March	Environmental Education Commission	Geneva, Switzerland
13-16 April	223 World Bank Conference on the Environment	Washington, DC, USA
July	224 World Bank Conference on the Environment	Washington, DC, USA
17-18 Aug	225 World Bank Conference on the Environment	Geneva, Switzerland
19 Aug	226 World Bank Conference on the Environment	Geneva, Switzerland
2-8 Sept	227 World Bank Conference on the Environment	Geneva, Switzerland
10-15 Sept	228 World Bank Conference on the Environment	Geneva, Switzerland
15-21 Sept	229 World Bank Conference on the Environment	Geneva, Switzerland
September	230 World Bank Conference on the Environment	Geneva, Switzerland

## **Commission Notes**

### **Commission on Ecology**

Prof. J. C. Cragg of Canada, who has served as chairman of the Commission since his election at the New Delhi General Assembly, resigned in September because of a heart attack. Prof. D. J. Kuenen of the Netherlands, vice chairman, was appointed by the Executive Board to act as chairman until the next General Assembly in September, 1972. Prof. Cragg is making a good recovery.

### **Commission on Environmental Planning**

To reflect the effective scope of the activities of the Commission on Landscape Planning, the Executive Board has decided to rename it as the Commission on Environmental Planning. The Commission is concerned with land-use planning and the various aspects of the urban-rural development cycle as well as physical planning and conservation of landscapes.

The Commission is initiating a new project to coordinate action on the improvement of cultural landscapes and Professor Dr. Vlastimil Vanicek of Czechoslovakia has been appointed as Chairman of the Coordinating Committee established under this project. Initially attention will be concentrated on landscapes of particular scientific, historical, economic and conservation value. The Committee held its first meeting in Cracow, Poland, on 8 October 1971.

## **Staff and Facilities**

### **Geneva site purchased for new joint IUCN/WWF headquarters**

With a generous cash donation specifically given for the purpose, IUCN/WWF will construct a new joint headquarters in Geneva. Although the project has been in discussion for more than a year, little could be said prior to acquisition of the site.

The excellently located site has now been acquired on a portion of the Pictet family's historic estate, Le Reposoir, on the west side of Lake Lemane (Lake of Geneva), adjoining the Botanical Gardens. It is within walking distance of the Palais des Nations and headquarters of several UN agencies, a location which will facilitate the increasing level of IUCN/WWF contact with these groups.

While planning is well-started, current controls in Switzerland preclude fixing starting dates for construction or moving. It is not expected that the move can occur until several years after the start of construction.

### **Secretariat adds three officers**

Three new officers have joined the Secretariat at Morges, completing the planned staff expansion.

They are Mr. Harry A. Goodwin, USA; Mr. Joseph Lucas, UK, and Dr. John A. Staub, USA.

Mr. Goodwin has been seconded from the US Department of the Interior, Office of Endangered Species, for an initial period of one year. He serves as Endangered Species Ecologist, working on matters connected with the Draft Convention on Import, Export and Transit of Certain Species of Wild Animals and Plants, Red Data Book revision and related activities.

Mr. Lucas, new Science writer for IUCN, comes to Morges from the Zoological Society of London, where he was editor of the highly successful International Zoo Yearbook.

Dr. Staub, a native of Switzerland, is serving as Executive Officer for the Commission on Environmental Policy, Law and Administration. He comes to IUCN after a career in international marketing and management. He has a degree in economic sciences and law from St. Gallen, Switzerland, and in economic sciences from the University of Paris, France.

## **Conferences and Meetings**

### **First International Technical Conference on Conservation of the Vicuña**

13-17 December 1971, Lima and Nazca, Peru

In ancient times, the wild vicuña of the high Andean regions was rationally managed for its fine wool, its fur and meat, with many thousands of animals living in areas where other species are not competitive. Today, its survival is threatened because of irrational exploitation, largely in response to market pressures.

The Conference just concluded, in which delegates from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile and Peru, and representatives of various national and international organizations all took part, clearly points the way toward restoration of rational management.

This could be of enormous importance in promoting the general development of high Andean regions and improving the quality of life of the generally less-favored peoples who live in the areas where the vicuña occurs. These highly-desired changes could be based on the continuous yield of wool and other products of the vicuña, as well as values deriving from tourism and scientific and educational uses.

However, the Conference made it clear that before any commercial exploitation based on sound ecological principles could become operational, it is absolutely essential that the critical low population levels be raised to numbers that would definitely place this animal beyond any threat of extinction.

Meeting in both Lima and the Pampa Galeras national vicuña reserve, the delegates and experts agreed on a declaration of principles plus nine detailed recommendations covering protection, law enforcement, educational programmes, intensified ecological research, studies of related sociological factors, tourism development, international cooperation on a variety of matters and establishment of joint research and development activities in the countries where the vicuña occurs.

The conference was organized by IUCN in collaboration with the Dirección General Forestal de Caza y Tierras del Ministerio de Agricultura of Peru, FAO, and the World Wildlife Fund.

The Declaration of Principles and Recommendations will be published by IUCN in the near future.

### **European Working Conference on Environmental Conservation Education**

15-18 December 1971, Rüschiikon, Switzerland

This Conference, the first of its kind held in Europe, brought together 105 specialists on environmental education – scientists, administrators, teachers and other experts – from 21 European countries, 11 international organizations, Canada, Australia and the USA. Specific recommendations pertaining to education at all levels were made as a follow-up to clarification of general principles and a survey of the present situation and needs.

IUCN organized the Conference in cooperation with the World Wildlife Fund, with support from the Swiss Federal authorities and the Canton of Zurich, the Migros-Genossenschafts-Bund, the Swiss League for the protection of nature, the Swiss National Appeal of WWF, and the Swiss National Commission for UNESCO.

In spite of some diversity in approaches to problems, and in implementation in particular, a high level of cooperation and involvement developed, and participants found common ground to develop viewpoints and make recommendations. The Conference proved to be an invaluable opportunity to exchange information on the methodology of environmental education in the various countries of Europe. Practical programmes, adapted to meet the needs of educational systems in a wide variety of situations, were proposed.

Conference chairman was Dr. L. K. Shaposhnikov, USSR. Dr. K. Ewald, Switzerland, was vice-chairman, and Mr. D. Withrington, UK, was rapporteur-general.

The final report on the Conference will be available from IUCN in January.

## Conferences and Meetings

First International Technical Conference  
on Conservation of the Vulture  
19-21 December 1977, Las Vegas, Nevada

In ancient times, the wild vultures of the high Andean regions were traditionally managed for its wool. Its fur and meat, with many thousands of animals living in grass where other species are not competitive. Today, its survival is threatened because of natural extinction, largely in response to market pressures.

The Conference was held in Las Vegas, Nevada, from 19-21 December 1977. It was attended by representatives of various national and international organizations. All took part, clearly going the way toward restoration of rational management.

The goal of the conference was to emphasize the general development of high Andean regions and improve the quality of life of the generally less-favored people who live in the areas where the vulture occurs. These highly desired changes could be based on the continuous yield of wool and other products of the vulture as well as values deriving from tourism and scientific and educational uses.

However, the Conference made it clear that before any commercial exploitation based on sound ecological principles could become operational, it is absolutely essential that the critical low population levels be raised to a point that would definitely place the animal beyond any threat of extinction.

Meeting in both Lima and the Pampa Galera, officials receive the delegates and experts agreed on a declaration of principles plus nine detailed recommendations covering protection law enforcement, economic management, rationalized ecological research, studies of related ecological factors, tourism development, international cooperation on a variety of matters, and establishment of joint research and development activities in the countries where the vulture occurs.

The conference was organized by IUCN in collaboration with the Director General, Forests of Peru, FAO, and the World Wildlife Fund.

The Director of Forestry and Game-Wildlife, Peru, will be contacted by IUCN in the near future.

European Working Conference on  
Environmental Conservation Education  
19-21 October 1977, Barcelona, Catalonia

The Conference, the first of its kind held in Europe, brought together 108 specialists on environmental education - scientists, administrators, teachers and other experts - from 23 European countries. It was held in Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain, and the USA, Australia, and other nations participating in education at all levels were invited to participate in the conference. The conference was held in Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain, and the USA, Australia, and other nations participating in education at all levels were invited to participate in the conference. The conference was held in Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain, and the USA, Australia, and other nations participating in education at all levels were invited to participate in the conference.

The first report on the Conference will be available from IUCN in January.

## Commissioner Votaw

Commission on Ecology

Prof. J. C. Votaw of Canada, who has served as chairman of the Commission since its inception in the fall of 1976, was elected to a second term at the meeting of the Executive Board of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 12-14 September 1977. Prof. Votaw was elected to a second term as chairman of the next Council Assembly in September 1977. Prof. Votaw is making a good recovery.

## Commission on Environmental Planning

To reflect the effective state of the affairs of the Commission on Land-use Planning, the Executive Board has decided to rename it as the Commission on Environmental Planning. The Commission is concerned with land-use planning and the various aspects of the urban development cycle as well as physical planning and conservation of landscapes.

The Commission is initiating a new project to study the improvement of urban landscapes and Professor Dr. Vladimir Vokac of Czechoslovakia has been appointed as Chairman of the Coordinating Committee established under the project. The Commission will be concerned on landscape of historical, scientific, historical, economic and conservation value. The Commission held its first meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, on 6 October 1977.

## Staff and Facilities

Facilities purchased for new four  
IUCN/WWF headquarters

With a generous cash donation specifically given for the purpose, IUCN/WWF will construct a new four-story building in Geneva, Switzerland. The purchase of the building is the first step in a program to improve the IUCN/WWF headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. The purchase of the building is the first step in a program to improve the IUCN/WWF headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

The excellent location of the building, the purchase of the building is the first step in a program to improve the IUCN/WWF headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. The purchase of the building is the first step in a program to improve the IUCN/WWF headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

While planning is well advanced, construction is still some way off. It is not expected that the new building will be completed until several years after the start of construction.

## Scientific paper from IUCN

Three new scientific papers from the IUCN/WWF series on the status of the world's birds are available.

They are: Mr. Harry A. DeGroot, USA; Mr. Douglas Lucas, UK; and Dr. John A. Smith, USA.

Mr. Goodwin has been awarded the US State Department of the Interior, Office of Biological Services for an initial period of one year. He serves as European Species Specialist working on various conservation projects. The IUCN/WWF has been awarded the US State Department of the Interior, Office of Biological Services for an initial period of one year. He serves as European Species Specialist working on various conservation projects.

Mr. Lucas, now Science Writer for IUCN/WWF, comes to the IUCN/WWF from the Zoological Society of London where he was editor of the highly successful International Zoo Yearbook.

Dr. Stubb, a member of Switzerland, is serving as Executive Officer for the Commission on Environmental Policy, Law and Administration. He comes to IUCN/WWF from a career in international marketing and management. He has a degree in economic sciences and law from the University of Paris, France.