17th Session of the General Assembly of IUCN
San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988

RESOLUTIONS
AND
RECOMMENDATIONS

Resolutions invite action by IUCN or one of its components (General Assembly, Council, Bureau, Commissions, Director General).
Recommendations invite action by third parties (with or without IUCN action).
### ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF IUCN

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ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF IUCN

17.1 PATRONS OF THE UNION

WHEREAS Article IV para. 3(iv) of the Statutes of IUCN provides that the General Assembly may elect such honorary officers of IUCN as it deems appropriate;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

RESOLVES that:

a. The General Assembly and, in the intervals between General Assemblies, the Council, may by a two-thirds majority, elect as Patrons to serve until the next General Assembly, persons who have agreed so to serve and who occupy positions which are generally recognized as enabling them to make an outstanding contribution to advancing the mission of IUCN;

b. Patrons may attend as special invitees the meetings of the General Assembly, the Council and the Commissions.

17.2 RESOLUTION OF THANKS TO THE HOST COUNTRY

HONORED by the presence at the Opening Ceremony of the General Assembly of His Excellency Oscar Arias Sánchez, President of the Republic of Costa Rica;

MOVED by the words of welcome and of hope of the President and by his vision of a country and a world where peace and conservation reinforce one another;

WELCOMING the adoption of new conservation measures by the Government of Costa Rica, such as the creation of a National Park in the Province of Guanacaste, to protect areas of dry tropical forest;

APPRECIATIVE of the outstanding site and facilities placed at the disposal of IUCN and the many participants;

VERY MUCH AWARE of the long efforts and work of the National Organizing Committee and the personal interest taken in the preparation of the General Assembly by the First Lady Margarita Penón de Arias and Dr. Alvaro Umaña, Minister of Natural Resources, Energy and Mines;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. EXPRESSES its deepest gratitude to President Arias, the First Lady and the Minister of Natural Resources, Energy and Mines for their personal commitment to the cause of conservation and the work of the Union.

2. RECORDS its great appreciation to the Government of Costa Rica for the support provided to the Union in organizing this General Assembly in one of the most biotically diverse regions of the world.

3. ELECTS His Excellency President Arias as a Patron of the Union.

4. EXPRESSES the hope that President Arias and other Heads of States and Governments who exercise their political influence in the service of conservation will continue to do so.

17.3 ELECTION OF WWF PRESIDENT AS PATRON OF IUCN

WHEREAS IUCN and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) work in closest collaboration in the service of world conservation;

AWARE of the unifying efforts of HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, President of WWF, in promoting international conservation;

RECOGNIZING the leading role played by HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, in realizing cooperation between WWF and IUCN;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

ELECTS HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, as a Patron of IUCN.

17.4 GOVERNANCE OF THE UNION

CONSIDERING the immense challenges faced by IUCN in achieving its mission and its vital need for efficient and effective governance, particularly through Council and Bureau but drawing also on the skills and energies of IUCN members, and providing for the crucial functions of management, fundraising and representation;

NOTING the emphasis on breaking down sectoral barriers in the planning and undertaking of conservation activities; and the importance accorded to socio-political and economic, as well as ecological, factors in sustainable development, in the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, the UN "Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond"; and in IUCN's draft report "From Strategy to Action: How to Implement the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development";

CONVINCED that the Union's members are a major resource which should be fully utilized at all levels and in all parts of the Union;

RECALLING that IUCN has been well served by its Council and Bureau;

RECALLING FURTHER the immense benefits accruing to the Union through the representational activities of the President, but;

NOTING that the President and Councillors have from time to time been constrained in the full discharge of their responsibilities by lack of funds;

NOTING AS WELL that IUCN has a unique resource in its Commissions but that there are overlaps of interest among them, and that the Commission structure may not adequately reflect the multidisciplinary nature of contemporary approaches to sustainable development;

NOTING ALSO that the establishment of theme programmes has led to a greater need for integration throughout the Union;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

RECOMMENDS that to the extent that additional funds are made available for the purpose:

a. Provision be made to meet the travel expenses of Regional and Co-opted Councillors, whenever necessary, to ensure their full participation in the work of the Council and the Union;

b. Provision also be made to enable the President to assume an increasingly active representational role on behalf of the Union, thus relieving some of the pressure on the Director General in this respect;
c. The Bureau be reactivated, taking responsibility particularly for review of programmes, budget operations and for the preparation of recommendations to the Council;

d. The Director General continue and intensify efforts to involve members in the planning and execution of all aspects of the Union's Programme;

e. The Director General, in consultation with the Council, undertake a detailed examination of all structural components of the Union, with a view to providing the most effective framework for the overall operation of the Union, reporting on the actions taken to the next General Assembly.

17.6 AN IMPROVED SYSTEM OF INFORMATION MANAGEMENT FOR NATURAL RESOURCES DATA

RECOGNIZING that decisions relating to the management of natural resources must be based upon the best available information;

APPRECIATING that the wise management of natural resources, including the conservation of biological diversity and the implementation of programmes for the sustainable development of natural resources, depends particularly upon high quality information and assessment;

AWARE of the leading role that the IUCN Conservation Monitoring Centre has played in promoting the collection, analysis and dissemination of information relating to the conservation of plant and animal species, habitats and protected areas, and to wildlife utilization and trade;

APPRECIATING that the data base activities of the Conservation Monitoring Centre require further development to meet the full range of information requirements;

CONCERNED that such development must involve the operation of the Conservation Monitoring Centre as part of a network of national and international data-centres in order to improve the management and application of environmental information;

RECOGNIZING the proposal tabled by the World Bank and other parties to establish a forum for the coordination and collaboration of organizations involved in the management and sharing of natural resources data and information;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN to:

a. Support the draft plan for the restructuring of the Conservation Monitoring Centre submitted by the Director of the Conservation Monitoring Centre, to Workshop 14: Towards an Improved System of Information Management for Natural Resources Data, held during this General Assembly, with full recognition of the comments and concerns expressed by IUCN members and other organizations;

b. Support, in particular, the proposals for the reorganization of the Conservation Monitoring Centre as a unit of IUCN, in full collaboration and partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), and other appropriate agencies;

c. Support the development and growth of the Conservation Monitoring Centre, within the financial capabilities of the Union, as a global conservation data centre supplying an information service to IUCN, its Commissions and its members, its partner organizations and the world conservation movement;

d. Ensure that the Conservation Monitoring Centre participates fully in the activities of the forum proposed by the World Bank and other parties by contributing its expertise to addressing the issues involved in the management and sharing of natural resources data and information, from the perspective of the conservation sector;

e. Promote through the Conservation Monitoring Centre, in close association with other agencies active in the management and assessment of environmental information, the development of a network of national and international data centres to enhance the exchange, dissemination and application of conservation information;

f. Actively seek suitable partners and sponsors to join with IUCN in supporting this new initiative in the expectation of shared benefits in the future;

g. Develop proposals for linking the data base held by the Environmental Law Centre to the evolving information system of the Conservation Monitoring Centre.

17.5 USE OF THE FRENCH AND SPANISH LANGUAGES

CONSIDERING that there is a certain imbalance in the use of the two official languages of IUCN;

BEARING IN MIND that, in order to be effective, conservation messages must be conveyed in the language of the country to which they are addressed;

AWARE of the increasing participation of Spanish-speakers in the activities of IUCN;

NOTING that as a result of the above, the 16th and 17th Sessions of the IUCN General Assembly were held in Spanish-speaking countries with Spanish interpretation and translation;

CONVINCED of the importance of IUCN's work in Spanish-speaking countries and RECOGNIZING that the effectiveness of this work would be greater if it were carried out in Spanish;

APPRECIATING the increasing use of Spanish by the Director General and the IUCN Secretariat in their work since the 16th Session of the General Assembly (Madrid, Spain, 1984), in compliance with Resolution 16/17 which was approved at that Session;

AWARE of the effort made by some States, particularly Spain and Costa Rica, to encourage the use of Spanish during the 16th and 17th Sessions of the General Assembly;

FURTHER CONVINCED that the best way of ensuring the regular use of Spanish in IUCN's work is to make it an official language of the Union;

BEARING IN MIND that an increase in the official languages of IUCN requires amendments to the Statutes;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN to take all necessary steps, including financial measures, to ensure that each of the official languages is adequately used;

2. RECOMMENDS that the Director General encourage the continued use of Spanish in the work of IUCN until the 18th Session of the General Assembly;

3. CALLS UPON the Director General to lay before the 18th Session of the General Assembly, proposals, including financial provisions, as required for the incorporation of Spanish as an official language of IUCN.

4. REQUESTS the Director General to make every effort to secure resources so that the incorporation of Spanish as an official language of IUCN is not hindered by any financial constraints.
2. FURTHER ENDORSES, in principle, the establishment of a Management Board with full executive responsibility for the programme and budget of the Conservation Monitoring Centre, and REQUESTS the Council and the Director General to implement such an arrangement, in agreement with other partner organizations.

17.7 CONSULTATION ON THE WORLD CONSERVATION STRATEGY COMPANION VOLUME

WELCOMING the preparation of an updated, expanded companion volume to the World Conservation Strategy;

RECALLING that the high quality, wide acceptance and significant impact of the World Conservation Strategy was due in substantial measure to the effective process of consultation involving the members of IUCN, as well as organizations of the United Nations system, and appropriate scientific bodies;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

REQUESTS the Director General to ensure that an effective process of consultation be put into operation during the preparation of the companion volume, thus enabling members of IUCN to contribute information to, and express views on, the document at several steps in its drafting.

17.8 IUCN COOPERATION WITH UNEP

WELCOMING Decision No. 14/8 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), entitled "Cooperation with Nongovernmental Organizations", adopted at its 14th Session in June 1987, which reaffirms the importance of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in promoting popular participation in sustainable development, as sources of information and knowledge on the ecological and cultural conditions for sustainable development, and as transmitters of that information and knowledge to citizens, industry, governments and development assistance agencies;

NOTING that in Decision No. 14/8, the UNEP Executive Director is asked to continue to work with IUCN in fields of mutual interest, which have included legal instruments to address environmental problems, marine pollution and coastal management programmes, conservation of biological diversity and natural habitats, and enhancement of the role of environmental NGOs in implementing UNEP's Programme;

RECOGNIZING IUCN's interest in developing a grassroots strategy to carry out the relevant recommendations of the World Commission on Environment and Development, and its partnership with UNEP in developing the World Conservation Strategy and the forthcoming companion volume;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. AFFIRMS its resolve to greatly improve its coordination and cooperation with UNEP.

2. Towards this end, REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN to:

   a. Actively seek opportunities for cooperation and coordination between IUCN Staff, Commissions, Centres and Members, and UNEP, particularly in the areas of environmental law, the Regional Seas Programme, UNEP's efforts to enhance national infrastructures, and the implementation of the Cairo Programme for African Cooperation drawn up by the Environmental Ministers of Africa;

   b. Work with UNEP to implement Decision No. 14/8 of the 14th Session of the UNEP Governing Council;

   c. Continue to work closely with UNEP and the other collaborators in the preparation of the companion volume to the World Conservation Strategy.

17.9 NGO PARTNERSHIP WITH IUCN

AWARE that the long-term success of conservation, and of IUCN's Programme, depends on continuing support from an informed, alert public which insists that governments and international bodies make conservation a high priority;

RECOGNIZING that nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) not only can mobilize public support but can also carry out elements of the Programme using their own resources;

RECALLING that the theme of IUCN's 1985-87 Programme was "Partnership for Conservation";

WELCOMING the successful partnerships that have already been created to carry out a number of elements of IUCN's Programme, but regretting that more of such partnerships do not exist;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN, within the resources available, to:

   a. Place a high priority on, and devote adequate staff time to, cooperation with IUCN's NGO members and other NGOs in their efforts to build public support for, and influence governments and international bodies in favour of, actions to implement IUCN's Programme and the goals of the World Conservation Strategy;

   b. Develop strong cooperative relationships with other NGO networks with similar objectives, such as the Environment Liaison Centre and NGOs of indigenous people having traditional knowledge of resource management;

   c. Collaborate with IUCN's NGO members and other NGOs to the maximum extent possible in carrying out IUCN's Programme;

   d. Develop mechanisms to facilitate cooperation among IUCN members who are engaged in similar fields of activity.

17.10 SUPPORT FOR NETWORKS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN REGION

CONSIDERING that a Regional Network of Nongovernmental Environmental Organizations for the Sustainable Development of Central America (REDES) has been created;
CONSIDERING ALSO that a planning committee for the creation of a network of Latin American and Caribbean environmental organizations has been created by 40 organizations in 13 countries;

BEING AWARE that the success of the objectives of the World Conservation Strategy depends on the support of an organized public;

RECOGNIZING that the Latin American and Caribbean environmental organizations have demonstrated their capacity for the implementation of conservation programmes and the mobilization of public opinion;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the theme of the General Assembly and IUCN's Programme is to search for a "Shared Responsibility";

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

AGREES, within the resources available, to:

a. Support the Regional Network of Nongovernmental Environmental Organizations for the Sustainable Development of Central America (REDES), created in Managua, Nicaragua, in May 1987, and urge it to promote sustainable development in the region;

b. Support the creation of the Latin American and Caribbean network of environmental groups and urge the planning committee to hold, in 1988, a meeting of the organizations that should constitute this network;

c. Dedicate time and personnel towards cooperation among these networks and other members of IUCN and other similar networks, to establish permanent communication, exchange scientific information, and gain citizen support in favour of actions that seek to implement conservation programmes of IUCN.

17.11 YOUTH IN CONSERVATION

AWARE of the importance of youth as heirs to the future;

STRESSING the special niche of youth in conservation activities;

RECOGNIZING the International Youth Federation for Environmental Studies and Conservation (IYF) as a worldwide federation of youth environmental NGOs;

RECALLING the long history of cooperation between IYF and IUCN as defined in a statement of the IUCN Executive Board of November 1970 and as demonstrated by jointly developed projects;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

REQUESTS that the Director General of IUCN:

a. Enhance, where appropriate, relationships with IYF and its regional affiliates;

b. Support, where appropriate, the implementation of IYF's Environmental Education Programmes.

17.12 40th ANNIVERSARY OF IUCN

CONSIDERING the importance attached by the members of the Union to the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the creation of IUCN at Fontainebleau, France, in 1948;

RECALLING the central role played by the Swiss League for the Protection of Nature, together with a committee including representatives from a number of countries, in organizing the 1948 Fontainebleau Conference which was then convened by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) and the Government of France;

DESIRING to accord to the 40th Anniversary celebration, the distinction appropriate to recognize the outstanding work carried out within the framework of IUCN during the 40 years of its existence;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. WELCOMES the decision to celebrate this anniversary by a ceremony in France, the country in which the Union was founded.

2. EXPRESSSES to the Government of France, appreciation for its having agreed to chair the Committee for the official ceremony.

3. INVITES the Swiss League for the Protection of Nature and Unesco to participate in the preparations for the ceremony.

4. INVITES all members of the Union and all members of the French National Committee for IUCN to do their utmost to contribute to the success of the ceremony.

17.13 WOMEN AND ENVIRONMENT

RECOGNIZING that women are the main, but largely neglected, natural resource managers, especially in the developing world; that their priorities in natural resource management coincide with those of IUCN; that their health and livelihood — and therefore their ability to act as effective agents for conservation — are often destroyed both by environmental degradation and by ill-conceived development and conservation projects;

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that women's skills and experience in natural resource management can assist IUCN in its work, and that women's groups have shown themselves to be informed, energetic and effective agents for conservation;

ACKNOWLEDGING that women and children make up the majority of Earth's poorest inhabitants and that IUCN has expressed its concern to reach these people;

RECALLING that in many recent international fora, notably the 16th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (1984), the 40th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (1985), the Ottawa Conference on Conservation and Development (1986), and the IUCN Workshop on Women and the World Conservation Strategy (1987), recommendations and resolutions were adopted calling for the involvement of women at all levels in working for sustainable development; that many of IUCN's cooperating organizations, donors and other partners are re-organizing their structures, procedures and policies to enable the skills and experience of women at all levels to be incorporated in their work;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. URGES all Governments to ensure that equal rights for all women and men are recognized and that all necessary steps are taken to fully implement this basic principle.

2. CALLS upon the Director General of IUCN to pursue funding for IUCN's efforts to enhance and support women's participation in conservation and sustainable development strategies, and within the resources available, to:

a. Appoint a full-time Women's Adviser to provide expertise, information and training assistance;

b. Appoint an Advisory Council of senior people experienced at international, national and field levels in the interactions between women and environment, to provide expertise, advice and fundraising capabilities;

c. Introduce an in-house screening procedure for all IUCN's programmes and projects to assess:

— how women can assist in conservation action;

— how women's capacity to conserve can be improved and not impaired;
d. Appoint a special review group to ensure that the recommendations of the Workshop on Women and the World Conservation Strategy, held in November 1987, are incorporated in the drafting of the World Conservation Strategy companion volume as agreed by the WCS Steering Committee at its meeting in January 1988;

e. Ensure that, in its response to the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, IUCN gives full recognition to the vital contribution of women in achieving sustainable development;

f. Increase the number of women experts on the IUCN Council, and in the Commissions, Advisory Committees and the Secretariat;

g. Make efforts to extend IUCN's membership to include NGOs active in the field of women and environment;

h. Set up, in cooperation with other organizations, an information system that inter alia will enable IUCN to review its programmes and projects, identify consultants, train staff, and publish materials on women and sustainable development.

MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

17.14 GLOBAL WARMING OF THE ATMOSPHERE

NOTING wide agreement among scientists that emissions into the atmosphere of carbon dioxide, chlorofluorocarbons, methane and oxides of nitrogen are likely, if present trends continue, to warm the earth’s atmosphere by an average of 3±1.5° Celsius, due to the “greenhouse effect”;

RECOGNIZING that such a warming would have far-reaching adverse impacts on prospects for conservation and sustainable development;

NOTING that the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and other international and national organizations are undertaking major programmes of study in order to determine more precisely the likely scale and regional distribution of these problems;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

REQUESTS the Director General, as part of IUCN’s Programme 1988-1990, within the resources available, to:

a. Cooperate with UNEP, WMO and other organizations undertaking basic analysis and modelling of the “greenhouse effect” and assessments of the practicability of action to minimize the amount of warming and to mitigate its consequences;

b. Cooperate with IUCN members and others in evaluating the likely impacts of global warming on conservation of nature and natural resources;

c. Disseminate widely the results of that evaluation;

d. Take steps, in cooperation with IUCN members and others, to promote the actions identified as necessary to minimize global warming of the atmosphere and its harmful effects on the environment.

17.15 THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE OF NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION

CONSIDERING that natural events such as floods, landslides, drought, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, wildfires and windstorms are an integral part of the natural processes of the planet;

RECALLING that the hazards posed by these events have taken more than three million lives worldwide and 23 billion dollars in economic losses in the last two decades, including destruction of infrastructure, production activities and human settlements and damage to flora, fauna, soil and water resources;

NOTING that the severity of natural disasters falls disproportionately on the poor, on lesser developed countries, and on the food production and shelter sectors;

RECOGNIZING the role that natural resource development activities has in influencing the nature and severity of these events;

CONVINCED that future strategies of natural resource management in a development planning context must necessarily include provision for natural hazards;
RECALLING that the United Nations General Assembly at its 42nd Session has designated the 1990s as a decade in which the international community, under the auspices of the United Nations, will pay special attention to fostering international cooperation in the field of natural disaster reduction;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:
WELCOMES the International Decade of Natural Disaster Reduction.

17.16 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES OF NUCLEAR WAR

RECALLING that the 16th Session of the General Assembly (1984) of IUCN considered the then new scientific studies on the devastating global environmental consequences of nuclear war;

RECALLING in particular the consequent Resolution 16/1, calling upon all States, international organizations and members of IUCN, to take specific actions in response to the threat posed by the so-called “nuclear winter”;

NOTING the subsequent completion in 1985 of a major study on the Environmental Consequences of Nuclear War (ENUWAR), under the auspices of the Scientific Committee on the Problems of the Environment (SCOPE), and involving some 300 scientists from 30 nations;

DRAWING ATTENTION to the conclusions of the SCOPE ENUWAR report that a major nuclear war could profoundly disrupt global climate, thus triggering a “nuclear winter”;

RECOGNIZING that the SCOPE ENUWAR report also concluded that global disruptions to climate and world society following nuclear war could place billions of survivors at risk of death from starvation;

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that the natural world would therefore be at unprecedented risk, both from the destructive impacts of nuclear winter and from over-utilization of natural resources by starving survivors;

AGREEING with the conclusions of the SCOPE ENUWAR report that “any disposition to minimize or ignore the widespread environmental effects of a nuclear war would be a fundamental disservice to the future of global civilization”;

CONCERNED that while there have been some hopeful signs of progress towards nuclear arms control and the reduction of the risks of nuclear war, the build-up of already enormous nuclear arsenals continues without sufficient awareness of the potentially very severe environmental consequences of their use;

BELIEVING that there is a more urgent need than ever to reduce existing uncertainties through further scientific research, especially on impacts on non-combatant countries, and to improve public information on the environmental consequences of nuclear war;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. URGES all States and international organizations to:
   a. Encourage, support, and fully cooperate in further studies of the environmental consequences of nuclear war, in particular in regard to the consequences of nuclear war for non-combatant nations and regions;
   b. Support and fully cooperate with research on the impacts of nuclear war on the natural environments of individual countries, including the potential destruction of natural resources through over-utilization by surviving societies;
   c. Take into account existing and subsequent studies of such impacts in re-examining current nuclear weapons, arms control, and civil defense policies;
   d. Disseminate to the public and to policy-makers scientific information on the environmental consequences of nuclear war.

2. RECOMMENDS that high priority be given by all members of IUCN to advancing the scientific understanding of the environmental consequences of nuclear war and informing the people of the world and their leaders of the importance of taking these new understandings into account in the formulation of relevant national policies.

17.17 POPULATION

REAFFIRMING Resolution 16/3, Population and the World Conservation Strategy, passed at the 16th Session of the General Assembly of IUCN, which acknowledged IUCN’s responsibility to incorporate population policy issues into its Programme, particularly in its work on national conservation strategies;

RECOGNIZING that the challenge and opportunity created by the international consensus on the interdependence of population, resources, environment and development are even more obvious and urgent than at that time;

WELCOMING the establishment of a Population and Sustainable Development Programme within the IUCN Secretariat and the appointment of technical leadership;

RECOGNIZING the work of the IUCN Task Force on Population and Conservation for Sustainable Development through their report of June 1986;

APPRECIATING IUCN’s action — taken in consultation with its collaborators on the World Conservation Strategy, UNEP, WWF, Unesco and FAO — to incorporate the population factor into the World Conservation Strategy companion volume;

RECALLING the consensus of the international community on population, environment and development as expressed in the World Population Plan of Action (1974), the Recommendations of the International Conference on Population (1984), and the World Conference on Review and Appraise the United Nations Decade for Women (1985);

WELCOMING the commitment of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) to action regarding the interrelationship among population, resources, the environment and development;

NOTING that world population passed five billion in 1987; that the United Nations estimates that it will be over eight billion by the year 2025, even though this projection assumes an overall decline in fertility; that the projected increases are not inevitable, but that a significant impact on the growth of human numbers will require early and sustained action;

FURTHER NOTING that some communities have high levels of resource consumption; and that, at the other extreme, some poor communities can meet their basic needs only by over-exploiting their resource base, sometimes with irreversible consequences and that this combination may exceed the safe limits of resource extraction;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. RENEWS its concern over rapid growth of the world’s population.
2. ENCOURAGES Governments to take effective action to secure the basic right of all couples, individuals, and in particular women, to decide the number and spacing of their children, and to have access to information and means to do so — a right accepted by the international community as essential for humanitarian and health reasons.

3. ENCOURAGES Governments and development agencies to take into account that population planning is an integral part of all conservation and development programmes, and that full participation of local communities in the planning and implementation of these programmes is essential.

4. CALLS ON the Director General of IUCN, within the resources available, to:
   a. Cooperate with national and international agencies concerned with population, especially UNFPA and the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), towards achieving the goals of balanced population growth and sustainable development;
   b. Implement the "Recommended Action: Population, Resources and Human Ecology" as given on page 22 of the IUCN draft report, "From Strategy to Action: How to Implement the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development".

17.18 DEPLETION OF OZONE

RECOGNIZING the importance of ozone in the stratosphere for the protection of life on earth from harmful ultraviolet radiation;
CONCERNED that depletion of ozone in the stratosphere above Antarctica in the spring has become steadily worse over the past 15 years;
AWARE that any general ozone depletion is likely to cause a severe reduction in yields of many of the most common crops, serious ecological effects, and an increase in numerous diseases, including skin cancer;
RECOGNIZING that such depletion is almost certainly due to chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and that these chemicals are also likely to contribute significantly to the "greenhouse effect";
WELCOMING the Montreal Protocol to the Convention on the Protection of the Ozone Layer as important progress towards the control of CFCs;
The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:
1. CALLS UPON States who have not already done so to become parties to the Montreal Protocol for the protection of the ozone layer as soon as possible.
2. CALLS UPON States to give urgent attention to achieving further substantial reductions in the use of chemicals that deplete the ozone layer, with the aim of eliminating all emissions of such chemicals as soon as possible by:
   a. Elimination of present non-essential applications of CFCs, for example as aerosol propellants;
   b. The use of economic instruments to encourage the development and use of ecologically acceptable alternatives;
   c. Ensuring that CFCs are not used when ecologically acceptable alternatives are available;
   d. Preventing new non-medical applications of CFCs;
   e. Adopting other effective measures to address this problem.
3. CALLS UPON States to initiate programmes for the safe and effective disposal of CFCs currently in use or in storage.

17.19 WASTES

AWARE that, although the management of wastes, and especially of hazardous wastes, is one of the most pressing and difficult challenges facing humankind, international and domestic laws have been largely ineffective due to their failure to address the linkages between air, water and land;
CONCERNED that environmentally sound methods of disposing of wastes, whether by recycling or by the development of alternative technologies (including biotecnologies, recovery techniques and high temperature destruction), are subject to institutional and regulatory obstacles;
RECOGNIZING HOWEVER that important international steps have been taken by the North Sea Ministers (November 1987) and the Contracting Parties of the London Convention (October 1986) to end ocean incineration and ocean dumping of radioactive wastes, respectively;
CONCERNED that the economic costs imposed by the present treatment of wastes and residues are disguised in current accounting practice in that:
   — environmental costs are frequently not paid by polluters;
   — activities undertaken to repair pollution damage are treated as a component of economic growth and development under present systems of calculating Gross Domestic Product; and
   — the capital loss represented by reduced life supporting capacity or genetic diversity is nowhere accounted for;
AWARE that developing countries need assistance and information from industrialised countries to enable them to make better use of waste management technology and that developed countries have compounded these problems by exporting wastes to developing countries;
The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:
1. URGES States to give priority to policies aimed at reducing waste and at promoting the development and commercial availability of recycling methods and environmentally sound waste disposal procedures.
2. FURTHER URGES State members of IUCN and other States Parties to international (including regional) conventions to consider means by which those conventions may be used to promote a comprehensive system of waste disposal, to institute practical measures to promote the development and use of environmentally sound technologies for this purpose, and to introduce these objectives into their domestic laws.
3. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN, subject to the resources available, to engage in dialogue with international organizations concerned with the protection of the environment against pollution, including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and organizations outside the United Nations system such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), with the objective of promoting actions that will, in furtherance of sustainable development:
   a. Ensure that all costs and benefits accruing from waste production, disposal and ensuing pollution are quantified;
   b. Ensure that they are accounted for;
   c. Ensure that polluter-pays mechanisms are available in public accounting procedures;
   d. Promote strategies to recycle wastes in the short term and eventually eliminate waste production, wherever possible, in the long term;
   e. Ensure that environmental hazards are not created by the export of wastes to developing countries.
And that, in the process, there is an examination of how Gross National/Domestic Product, economic growth and development may be redefined (or supplemented) so that the new definitions take into account short and long term environmental costs and benefits, and truly reflect real improvement of human societies' standard of living and fulfilment of their aspirations.

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4. SUGGESTS that IUCN's Commission on Environmental Policy, Law and Administration assist, as appropriate, in the preparation of guidelines on the polluter-pays principle, in a manner that takes full account of the costs of damage to, and rehabilitation of, the environment.

5. ENCOURAGES industrialised countries to provide greater assistance and information on waste management technology, and URGES the governments of developing countries to facilitate the introduction of this technology.

6. RECOMMENDS that IUCN endorses and participates in the current activity of UNEP on the establishment of a global convention seeking the environmentally satisfactory disposal of toxic wastes.

17.20 TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY RELATING TO CONTAMINATING PRODUCTS INCLUDING PESTICIDES

RECALLING that one of the main objectives of the World Conservation Strategy is the protection of vital ecosystems for the maintenance of the quality of life on our planet;

AWARE that the legal and administrative systems of many developing countries are ill-equipped to assess the risks to their environment and public health posed by technology and products which may be exported to those countries;

RECOGNIZING in particular that natural resources, fauna and flora are constantly exposed to chemical residues resulting from the use of pesticides in food production, vector control, horticulture and forestry, and from domestic and urban use, with serious consequences for human health;

CONCERNED that the impact of pesticides in developing countries is exacerbated by abuse or improper or irrational use;

NOTING that in November 1985, the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) adopted, by consensus of all Member Countries, the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides, and that nongovernmental conservation organizations world-wide played an important role in promoting the development and adoption of the Code;

FURTHER NOTING that the FAO Conference in November 1987 decided that the principle of prior informed consent should be included in the Code within two years;

WELCOMING the decision of the 14th Session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to develop proposals for the inclusion of the principle of prior informed consent into the “London Guidelines for the Environmentally Safe Management of Banned or Severely Restricted Chemicals in International Trade” at its next regular session in 1989;

WELCOMING ALSO Resolution A/RES/42/183 of the United Nations General Assembly on Traffic in Toxic and Dangerous Products and Wastes;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. CALLS ON Governments of all countries to enact legislation to control the import of known contaminating products, processes, or associated technology.

2. ENCOURAGES Governments to enact legislation to prevent the export of contaminating products, processes, or associated technology.

3. ENCOURAGES Governments to prohibit the import of agrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, other chemical substances, technology or processes that, due to their high toxicity, or their effect on the environment or on human health, are liable to have a damaging impact.

4. URGES State members of IUCN to strive for the implementation of the UNEP Governing Council decision on further development of the London guidelines towards the inclusion, in the legislation of member countries, of the “prior informed consent” principle and the recommendations of the FAO International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides.

5. URGES State members of IUCN to persuade all States to consider and adopt restriction of pesticide exports to States that do not enforce laws governing their purchase, use and distribution; considerations such as inappropriateness of certain chemicals that require the use of heavy protective garments in tropical and desert climates, should be examined.

6. URGES that further research be conducted on alternative, non-chemical and integrated pest control methods.

7. CALLS FOR a commitment to training and deploying extension personnel to educate farmers about the ecological and economic advantages of well-researched biological pest control and integrated pest management technologies.

8. REQUESTS IUCN members to monitor the rigorous enforcement of the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides in all countries and their impact upon wild flora and fauna and upon human populations; and to press for the development, at national and international levels, of strict regulations on use, control, marketing, export and production of pesticides.

9. FURTHER CALLS ON the Director General of IUCN to give priority, within the resources available, to the organization of education campaigns that warn about the dangers of pesticides, encourage their safer and more rational use, and promote alternative pest control methods that are not chemical or involve only minimal quantities of toxic chemicals.

17.21 POLLUTION AND MARINE DEBRIS

RECOGNIZING that marine debris, particularly persistent plastics and abandoned fishing nets and gear (especially monofilament nets), represent a significant threat to marine life;

AWARE that the accumulation of marine garbage emanating from ships and land-based sources in the marine environment and on beaches is a serious and increasing problem worldwide;

RECOGNIZING that the continuing pollution of the marine environment with toxic substances from land-based sources and from ships is causing serious, and in many areas increasing, damage to marine ecosystems;

WELCOMING the forthcoming entry into force of Annex V of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) that will prohibit ships from discharging plastics at sea and place significant restrictions on the discharge of other garbage;

NOTING the efforts of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) to develop draft guidelines for effective implementation and enforcement of Annex V requirements;

WELCOMING the statement by the Consultative Meeting of the Parties to the London Dumping Convention (LDC) that deliberate disposal at sea of worn-out or broken fishing gear should not be treated under the LDC as exempted discharges in the course of the normal operation of vessels;

WELCOMING ALSO the studies of the incidence of marine debris in the Southern Ocean being made by the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR);
The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. URGES IUCN State members and other States which are Parties to MARPOL, to ratify Annexes II, III and V of the Convention and (where appropriate) to take such steps as are necessary to introduce their provisions into their national law so as to regulate strictly the discharge into the sea of toxic substances and garbage (as defined in the Convention) from vessels flying their flags.

2. FURTHER URGES IUCN State members which are Parties to MARPOL, and other States, to undertake efforts domestically, regionally and internationally to minimise and where possible to eliminate toxic substances and debris entering the sea from land-based sources.

3. RECOMMENDS that:
   a. Member States of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), after entry into force of Annex V, consider introducing amendments to the Annex to increase the rigour with which it is implemented and enforced, including:
      — a requirement that individual waste management plans be developed for commercial vessels;
      — a requirement that log entries be made for all waste disposal practices;
      — a requirement for the presentation of waste at port side for vessels requiring off loading of waste in accordance with their waste management plans;
   b. Member States consider a requirement that all fishing vessels flying their flags or operating in their fishing zones adopt methods of indelibly marking fishing gear such as nets, ropes and cables in such a manner that the vessel from which such gear originates may be readily identified, and that they consider creating incentives for fisherman to recover lost gear;
   c. Member States of other competent international bodies, including the London Dumping Convention and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, consider how the competency of those bodies may be used to initiate and coordinate practical measures to combat the problems of marine pollution by toxic substances and release of debris;
   d. Member States of competent regional bodies, including the Oslo Convention, the Paris Convention, the Helsinki Convention and the Regional Seas Conventions supported by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), consider how the competency of those bodies may be used to initiate practical measures to achieve the objectives of paragraph 2 above.

4. INVITES IUCN State members which are Parties to MARPOL, and other States and relevant international organizations, to institute regional studies of the incidence of marine debris similar to those being carried out in the Southern Ocean under CCAMLR.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

17.22 DEVELOPMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

TAKING NOTE of the conclusions of the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED);

RECALLING in particular that the WCED Report refers to a draft convention on the conservation of wild genetic resources arising from Resolution 16/24 of the 16th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (1984) and prepared under the auspices of IUCN's Commission on Environmental Policy, Law and Administration (CEPLA);

NOTING Resolution 14/26 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) calling upon the UNEP Executive Director to establish an ad hoc working group of experts to investigate, in close cooperation with the Ecosystem Conservation Group and other international organizations, the desirability and possible form of an umbrella convention to rationalize current activities under existing conservation conventions; but AWARE of the numerous practical, political and legal obstacles which the drafting of such a convention would entail;

CONSIDERING nevertheless that the effectiveness of existing nature conservation conventions might be enhanced through increased coordination of the individual convention secretariats;

RECALLING the adoption and solemn proclamation by the UN General Assembly of the World Charter for Nature (1982) and the adoption by the United Nations Environment Programme's "Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond";

RECALLING FURTHER the efforts of IUCN to develop appropriate environmental law infrastructures, especially in developing countries, and to maintain an information centre on environmental law;

AWARE of the efforts which have been made in Central America in the field of environmental law;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. WELCOMES the recognition in the WCED Report and in the UN "Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond" of the importance of environmental law, both national and international, and EXPRESSES its satisfaction that IUCN has largely contributed to the improvement and development of this sector of the law for the past decade.

2. STRESSES the importance of the legal and policy element of the IUCN Programme.

3. RECOMMENDS that this Programme includes work towards the convention on environmental protection and sustainable development called for by the WCED Report and considered a possibility by the UN "Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond".

4. SUGGESTS that such a treaty embody the principles of the World Charter for Nature and that the views of all IUCN members be taken into consideration.

5. RECOMMENDS that the draft convention on the conservation of wild genetic resources (as improved to reflect the views expressed at this General Assembly and including a funding mechanism) be widely circulated for comment by governments and NGOs.

6. RECOMMENDS further that efforts of the ad hoc Working Group to be established by UNEP and those of the Ecosystem Conservation Group be directed at achieving such increased cooperation through, inter alia, the provision of joint services; and REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN actively to
cooperate in these efforts, so that IUCN may contribute to the maximum extent practicable to the activities carried out under the conventions in question.

7. CALLS UPON CEPLA and the Environmental Law Centre to support the preparation of environmental laws in Latin America and the inclusion of environmental factors in national constitutions, and to promote the development of conventions relating to sustainable use of natural resources in Latin America.

8. URGES the countries of Latin America that have not yet done so to adopt or ratify appropriate international conventions relating to conservation.

17.23 THE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW OF THE SEA

RECALLING that the oceans cover 71 per cent of the surface of the earth and are the home of a vast number of species of plants and animals;

FULLY AWARE of the importance of ocean management as a component of the world-wide efforts towards the conservation of the biosphere and achievement of the goals of the World Conservation Strategy and the implementation of the principles of the World Charter for Nature;

RECALLING Resolution 15/17 of the 15th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (1981) and Resolution 16/12 of the 16th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (1984) as well as the action taken in many international fora and by many international and national organizations to foster interest in ocean affairs and to promote cooperative ocean conservation and management action;

MINDFUL of the fact that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (LOS) that was signed and opened for signature in December 1982 has played a significant role in the elaboration of the environmental law of the sea, and that its provisions, especially those set forth in Part XII dealing with “Protection and Preservation of the Marine Environment”, are reflective of customary international law;

AWARE that the IUCN Commission on Environmental Policy, Law and Administration (CEPLA), in collaboration with the Ocean Studies Programme, Dalhousie University, Canada, has already completed a detailed analysis of the potential allocation of responsibilities for implementing the environmental provisions of the LOS Convention;

RECOGNIZING that to date 35 States have ratified the LOS Convention, and that 60 State ratifications are needed for the Convention to enter into force;

CONCERNED that the actual practice of managing resources and regulating uses in marine areas in which States have jurisdiction (including 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zones for those countries which have declared them) is not well advanced, and that, in many cases, resources are presently managed without adequate consideration of intersectoral connections and without consideration of overall marine priorities and goals;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 15th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. CONGRATULATES the National Constituent Assembly on the environmental considerations evolved from its Commission on Systematics.

2. URGES the National Constituent Assembly, in its drafting process, to take full account of environmental concerns and socio-economic values of natural resources and their conservation and utilization as a basis for Brazil’s development.

3. ASKS the President of IUCN to bring this Resolution personally to the attention of the President of the National Constituent Assembly of Brazil for its consideration.

17.24 NEW BRAZILIAN CONSTITUTION

AWARE that Brazil is in the process of drafting a new Constitution;

CONGRATULATING the National Constituent Assembly of Brazil, in its drafting process, for having created a Commission on Systematics with the mandate to draft a chapter on environment;

RECALLING that Brazil holds within its borders an enormous wealth of biological diversity and an enormous potential for socioeconomic development based on natural resources;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. CONGRATULATES the National Constituent Assembly on the environmental considerations evolved from its Commission on Systematics.

2. URGES the National Constituent Assembly, in its drafting process, to take full account of environmental concerns and socio-economic values of natural resources and their conservation and utilization as a basis for Brazil’s development.

3. ASKS the President of IUCN to bring this Resolution personally to the attention of the President of the National Constituent Assembly of Brazil for its consideration.
PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

17.25 INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION FINANCING PROGRAMME

NOTING that the World Commission on Environment and Development made the recommendation in its report “Our Common Future” that:

“In order to marshal and support investments in conservation projects and national conservation strategies that enhance the resource base for development, serious consideration should be given to the development of a special international banking programme or facility linked to the World Bank. Such a special conservation banking programme or facility could provide loans and facilitate joint financing arrangements for the development and protection of critical habitats and ecosystems, including those of international significance”; and

“supplementing efforts by bilateral aid agencies, multilateral financial institutions and commercial banks”;

FURTHER NOTING that a feasibility study is about to commence, sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Resources Institute, and supported by the World Bank, certain bilateral aid agencies and private foundations;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

WELCOMES this initiative and URGES the Director General of IUCN to follow the progress of the feasibility study.

17.26 REPORT OF THE WORLD COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

WELCOMING the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (WECID);

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Commission has broken new ground in building a world-wide consensus on the nature of sustainable development and the actions needed to achieve it;

RECOGNIZING that implementation of the Commission’s recommendations would do much to achieve the objectives of the World Conservation Strategy;

COMMENDING ESPECIALLY the chapter in the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development dealing with institutional and legal change;

WELCOMING ALSO the “Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond”, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in late 1987, and RECOGNIZING that implementation of its recommendations would also further the achievement of the aims of the World Conservation Strategy;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. THANKS the World Commission on Environment and Development for its valuable work.

2. URGES governments, international bodies, nongovernmental organizations, and individuals to examine the Commission’s Report, consider its recommendations, and join in efforts to solve the problems it identifies.

3. URGES the General Assembly of the United Nations to consider favourably the various recommendations for legal and institutional change, in particular:
   a. The continuing development of international environmental law, which could contribute to the preparation of a Convention on Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development;
   b. The maintenance of the present momentum with regard to conventions on climate change, hazardous chemicals and wastes, and on preserving biological diversity;
   c. Utilization by governments of existing and emerging agreements and conventions for the peaceful settlement of environmental disputes.

4. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN to take account of the Commission’s recommendations in planning IUCN’s future Programme.

17.27 INSTITUTIONS FOR NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

TAKING NOTE of the recommendation made by the 27 sub-Saharan African countries participating in the International Symposium on Wildlife Management in Sub-Saharan Africa, meeting in Harare (Zimbabwe), 6-9 October 1987;

RECALLING the recommendations of the World Commission on Environment and Development which, inter alia, draw attention to the inadequacy of many national institutions;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. RECOMMENDS that IUCN State members critically review their institutions responsible for the protection, management and utilization of wildlife resources, and improve those that are deficient.

2. FURTHER RECOMMENDS that IUCN, within the resources available, provide advice upon request to individual governments as to institutional reforms.

3. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN, acting through the Commission on Environmental Policy, Law and Administration, and within the resources available, to undertake preparatory work on the development of a series of institutional models capable of being adapted to diverse national conditions and regional and cultural needs.

4. REQUESTS the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), as well as multilateral and bilateral development aid agencies, to bring financial support to the establishment and completion of this task.
17.28 NATIONAL AND REGIONAL CONSERVATION STRATEGIES

CONSIDERING THAT:
a. The World Conservation Strategy provides guidelines for the development of national conservation strategies;
b. While many countries, such as Costa Rica, have prepared or are in the process of developing their national conservation strategies, many others have not yet undertaken such a task;
c. Indigenous peoples have a long and rich history of knowledge and experience in the sustainable use of their environment, which has often been excluded from economic development strategies as well as conservation strategies and activities;
d. IUCN has, through its Commission on Ecology, begun work in this area by combining traditional knowledge with scientific knowledge;
e. In response to the aspirations of the Inuit of Alaska, Canada and Greenland, the Inuit Circumpolar Conference has initiated an Inuit Regional Conservation Strategy, modelled after the World Conservation Strategy from an indigenous perspective;
f. A section on "Recommended Action: Traditional Knowledge" is contained within the IUCN draft report "From Strategy to Action: How to Implement the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development";

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:
1. URGES all national and regional governments to follow the example of Costa Rica in developing national and/or regional conservation strategies as well as to use them as a basis for their planning policies.
2. RECOMMENDS the inclusion of indigenous peoples in the preparation of national and regional conservation strategies where this is appropriate.
3. SUPPORTS the efforts of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference to develop the Inuit Regional Conservation Strategy within the framework of the World Conservation Strategy.
4. SUPPORTS the efforts of the International Indian Treaty Council to develop indigenous national and regional conservation strategies within the framework of the World Conservation Strategy.

17.29 THIRD-WORLD DEBT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

BELIEVING that governments and multilateral financial institutions should encourage conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources, including an appropriate set of new or increased programmes on institution building, soil conservation, watershed protection, fisheries or forestry management, wildlife utilization, small farmer agriculture, biological diversity protection, the creation and expansion of national parks and biological reserves, and investment in scientific research, as a necessary basis for sustainable socio-economic development;
RECOGNIZING that many developing countries owe debts of unprecedented size to banks, governments and private parties in industrialized countries;
CONCERNED that in most developing countries this indebtedness is increasing with little immediate prospect of repayment, particularly in the low-income countries such as those in Sub-Saharan Africa;
CONCERNED FURTHER that conservation expenditures, such as soil, water, fisheries and forest management, endangered species protection, cleaning of water and air, management training and environmental education, often must be postponed in part because of debt-service obligations;
CONCERNED FURTHER that high foreign debt may encourage expansion of cash crop monocultures and livestock grazing on marginal lands in order to sell produce to generate short-term earnings to service this debt;
NOTING that the above undermines the potential for renewable resources management and thus also sustainable economic development, accelerating destruction of tropical forests and other critical ecosystems;
RECALLING the manifesto recently issued by the first meeting of eight Latin American Presidents in Mexico, which referred to debt relief to heavily indebted countries;
AWARE that this debt crisis, unless resolved in the mutual interests of both lending institutions and borrowing countries, will continue to place increasing pressure on developing nations and their environments;
NOTING that a number of governments and financial institutions have taken steps to alleviate debt-burdens by accepting:
a. reduced interest rates
b. stretched-out repayments
c. in certain cases, alleviation of debt burden of low-income countries
d. conversion of debt to local currency obligations;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:
1. REQUESTS the President of IUCN to send a memorandum to the Governments attending the Economic Summit of the Group of Seven in Toronto in June 1988, expressing the concern of the members of IUCN and requesting that governments, in conjunction with multilateral financial institutions, private financial institutions, and conservation groups, provide incentives for sound natural resource management and long-term economic development as elements in current and future debt adjustments.
2. URGES governments and intergovernmental institutions to which debts are owed by low-income countries in sub-Saharan Africa to take appropriate steps to alleviate the debt burden of those countries as rapidly as possible.

17.30 DEBT FOR NATURE SWAPS

NOTING that "debt for nature" swaps can in some circumstances afford an excellent opportunity for funding natural resource management institutions, conservation projects and programmes in developing countries with heavy debt burdens;
RECOGNIZING that the debt of more heavily indebted countries is frequently sold in the secondary market at substantial and growing discounts;
AWARE that these discounts present an unprecedented opportunity for developing nations to negotiate the exchange of outstanding debt for certain conservation obligations;
WELCOMING the initiative displayed by nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in certain developed and developing countries to conclude transactions in cooperation with their respective governments;
RECALLING the experience of Costa Rica in "debt for nature" swaps;
NOTING that among the procedures that may be considered under such circumstances are:

a. The exchange of foreign debt for local currency, local bonds or certain conservation obligations (e.g. allocation of land for conservation use);
b. The transfer of ownership of debt by private commercial banks in developed countries, whether by acquisition, donation or pledge, for the purpose of financing conservation projects and programmes in developing countries;
c. Tax incentives to promote such transfers;
The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:
1. STRONGLY URGES concerned governments to consider these opportunities for promoting nature conservation and to take appropriate measures to derive benefit from them.
2. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN, in conjunction with other organizations and within the resources available, to consider the types of debt-swapping mechanisms that might be appropriate in various circumstances and to bring the opportunities to the attention of Ministers of Finance and Directors or Governors of Central Banks, as well as to governmental agencies and NGOs in charge of conservation programmes. The Director General is requested to pay particular attention to the experience of Costa Rica and other countries that are operating such programmes.

17.31 DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE INSTITUTIONS AND CONSERVATION

RECOGNIZING the critical role that multilateral and bilateral development assistance institutions play in the choice and planning of economic development projects and policies in developing countries;
RECOGNIZING FURTHER that economic development projects, and overall economic policies in developing countries, have a significant effect on the sustainable use of natural resources and the rights and welfare of local inhabitants including the poor, the landless and indigenous people;
RECALLING the concern expressed elsewhere by this General Assembly with regard to the impacts of development assistance on biological and other natural resources, and that these impacts can be beneficial or adverse depending on how well conservation and development are integrated;
NOTING the initiatives that some of these development institutions have recently undertaken to integrate development and environmental aspects in their projects;
CONVINCED that better understanding of the relationship between conservation and development and more rapid progress toward the achievement of sustainable development would result from pooling of intellectual and financial resources by development assistance institutions;
The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:
1. COMMENDS those development assistance institutions that are incorporating environmental conservation measures into their projects and programmes.
2. URGES those institutions to demonstrate and strengthen their commitment to promoting the wise use of natural resources and the protection of the rights and welfare of local inhabitants as well as to enhancing the welfare of people affected by their projects and programmes.
3. STRONGLY URGES those institutions that are not incorporating environmental protection measures in their projects and programmes to do so as soon as possible.
4. RECOMMENDS that the multilateral development institutions pay special attention to the importance of, and benefits that can be provided by, encouraging the active participation of local conservation and indigenous peoples' organizations in all stages of planning and implementation of their activities in borrowing countries.
5. RECOMMENDS that development assistance institutions through the medium of the Committee of the International Development Institutions on the Environment (CIDIE), the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), or other appropriate institutions — promote and facilitate research, appropriate pilot projects and the exchange of information on sustainable development, and train people from developing countries in environmental topics.
6. REQUESTS governments to exercise leadership within the multilateral development assistance institutions to achieve the objectives outlined in this Resolution.
7. CALLS UPON the nongovernmental organization (NGO) members of IUCN to use their influence with their governments to promote the objectives outlined in this Resolution.
8. FURTHER REQUESTS the Director General, as part of IUCN's Programme 1988-1990, to assist and promote the efforts of NGO members called for above.

17.32 DEVELOPMENT AID AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMMES

CONSIDERING THAT:
a. As a result of the economic crises faced by developing countries and indigenous populations within developed countries, it is very difficult for them to invest in, and give priority to, the conservation and development of natural resources;
b. Various international funding agencies seek to promote development by granting loans to governments;
c. The World Bank and other agencies seek to develop large-scale programmes for the conservation of areas of international ecological importance;
The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:
1. RECOMMENDS that:
a. Developing countries and indigenous populations within developed countries recognize the actual and potential values of renewable natural resources as a basis for their own sustainable socio-economic development; and, when seeking aid and allocating resources, accord a higher priority to these values;
b. Donor countries and aid agencies give a high priority in their aid programmes to projects submitted to them that reflect an appreciation of the importance of the conservation of natural resources.
2. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN, in collaboration with other international organizations such as the World Bank, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme and multilateral and bilateral aid agencies, to promote a coordinated approach to funding of conservation projects, including the establishment of protected areas.
17.33 ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

RECOGNIZING that environmental education enables people to make well-considered decisions in situations in which the environment is involved;

NOTING that environmental education assures that environmental problems are seen in the long term, in local and global perspectives, and in their economic, social, cultural and political contexts;

AWARE that, since the publication of the World Conservation Strategy and the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, it has become clear that without education these documents cannot be implemented;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. URGES all members of IUCN to undertake educational programmes to motivate parliamentarians and legislators to support environmental conservation and sustainable development.

2. RECOMMENDS governments to urge nongovernmental organizations in the field of environmental education to apply for IUCN membership.

3. URGES national governments to pay due attention to the full development of environmental education when defining their policies on education and environmental conservation.

4. CALLS upon the Director General of IUCN, in consultation with IUCN's Commission on Education and Training and within the resources available, to open deliberations with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Society for Environmental Education and other international bodies:
   a. On facilitating:
      — the flow of research results and other information concerning environmental education;
      — the international exchange of staff, students and educational material;
   b. On providing data on existing training facilities for environmental educators, and promoting the establishment of new facilities, especially in developing countries.

17.34 CONSERVATION BY THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY (EC)

IN VIEW of the fact that the European Single Act, amending the Treaty of Rome, reaffirmed the need for action in the environmental field by the European Community; and furthermore in view of the EC’s responsibilities for environmental conservation and international trade, and in particular its importing and exporting policies for agricultural, livestock and forestry products;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. CALLS UPON the European Community to:
   a. Ensure the full implementation of the EC's 4th European Action Programme on the Environment in order to enable it to reach its stated goals;
   b. Utilize fully the possibilities offered by the European Regional Fund to promote sustainable development and environmental conservation under strict guidance of ecological criteria;
   c. Ensure that all projects proposed under the Integrated Mediterranean Programmes are subject to strict environmental analysis procedures and to effective environmental monitoring as they are implemented, and that any necessary steps are taken to prevent or remedy environmental damage;
   d. Ensure that, in its forthcoming negotiation of the new Lomé-IV agreement, it promotes renewable natural resource conservation and development (including sustainable forest management, sustainable wildlife utilization, etc.);
   e. Utilize to the full the expertise of IUCN and its members within and outside the European Community in its assessment of the above policies and impacts.

2. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN to bring this Resolution to the attention of the relevant authorities of the European Community and to develop closer links between IUCN and the EC.

PROMOTING CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY: GENERAL

17.35 REGULATION OF HUNTING

AWARE that excessive or uncontrolled hunting, especially of migratory birds in some regions, may have a serious impact on populations of some species;

RECOGNIZING that it is necessary in the interest of conservation to provide for the protection of many species at critical seasons and in key habitats, and that most countries have adopted legislation for this purpose;

EQUALLY AWARE that in other circumstances properly regulated hunting and shooting can be conducted in a fashion that is compatible with conservation and with the principles of the World Conservation Strategy;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

RECOMMENDS that, where necessary, IUCN's Commission on Ecology and the Species Survival Commission develop, in cooperation with the national and international organizations having expertise in wildlife protection and management, guidelines for the regulation of hunting and shooting in accordance with the principles of the World Conservation Strategy, for consideration by those governments that do not already have effective statutory controls in this area.

17.36 WILDERNESS AS A CATEGORY OF PROTECTED AREA

RECOGNIZING that a growing number of nations are setting aside wilderness areas as important components of their systems of protected areas;

BEARING IN MIND the fact that wilderness embodies a prescription for land management that is different from that applied both to national parks and to strict nature reserves in that it entails allowing a type of low-impact recreation in an environment free of roads, and free of extraction or removal of natural resources;

RECALLING that IUCN at the 16th Session of the General Assembly (1984) urged all nations to designate wilderness areas;

AREAW that IUCN's Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas has now recommended that wilderness be included within its system for classifying protected areas, in pursuance of the implications of Resolution 16/34 of the 16th Session of the General Assembly;
The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

CONGRATULATES the Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas for developing this proposal to adopt wilderness within its system for classifying protected areas.

17.37 STRENGTHENING MARINE ACTIVITIES

REALIZING that a major part of the world’s population is living in or dependent on the coastal zone;

CONCERNED that the deterioration of the world’s coastal and marine resources is continuing at a rapid pace;

CONSCIOUS that the stores of scientific knowledge and of planning methodologies for the rational management of coastal and marine resources are less developed than for terrestrial systems;

CONSCIOUS that methodologies for the integrated planning for management of coastal and marine resources, particularly those of developing countries have not been adequately developed, tested or disseminated;

FURTHER CONSCIOUS that the coastal and marine components of the World Conservation Strategy and national conservation strategies have not yet been adequately addressed;

RECALLING that Resolution 16/12 of the 16th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (1984) addressed the need for action by IUCN to respond to issues of marine resources management related to the environmental law of the sea;

FURTHER RECALLING that Resolution 16/19 of the 16th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (1984) recognized that the theme of "Promoting the Conservation of Coastal and Marine Living Resources" was one of the activities that would continue to receive a commitment of resources by IUCN, through its Secretariat and Commissions;

RECOMMENDS to marine areas under their jurisdiction should take specific steps to improve the planning and management of coastal and marine resources and to encourage greater exchange of scientific information on existing management methodologies.

4. CALLS on relevant authorities to cooperate in management of marine protected areas that come under more than one jurisdiction.

5. RECOMMENDS FURTHER that nongovernmental organizations consider ways of focusing greater attention on the importance of conserving the coastal and marine environment.

17.38 PROTECTION OF THE COASTAL AND MARINE ENVIRONMENT

AWARE that the area of sea and seabed is more than two-and-a-half times as great as the total area of land masses of the world, that less than one per cent of that marine area is currently within established protected areas and that protection of the marine environment lags far behind that of the terrestrial environment;

RECOGNIZING that the immense diversity of marine and estuarine animals, plants, and communities is a vital component of self-sustaining systems of local, regional, national and international significance and is an integral part of the natural and cultural heritage of the world;

2. REQUESTS FURTHER that in the implementation of the coastal and marine elements of the IUCN Programme, the Commissions, and the Director General give the highest priority to those elements that augment the development, formulation and dissemination of methodologies and information concerned with planning and managing the use of coastal and marine resources, particularly in developing countries, including such elements as:

a. Establishment of a global and regional network of scientists and managers that can act as a resource for IUCN activities related to the integrated planning and management of the use of coastal and marine resources;

b. Assisting in the formulation and implementation of national and regional conservation strategies;

c. Assisting countries (particularly developing countries) in formulating, and seeking funds for, projects aimed at the rational management of coastal and marine resources;

d. Convening of task forces and working groups for evaluating and refining ecological and other concepts needed to obtain a greater consensus on important marine environmental and marine resource indicators as well as concepts needed for coastal and ocean planning and management;

e. Convening workshops and training courses on the development of coastal and marine planning and management techniques, including remote sensing, marine ecology assessment and oceanographic modelling;

f. Workshops, training courses and public awareness activities concerning coastal planning and management;

g. Developing mechanisms (e.g. newsletter, annotated registry of IUCN's marine and coastal members and collaborators, distribution of draft policy/programme statements and documents for review and comment by interested governmental and nongovernmental organization members) to strengthen participation in the IUCN Coastal and Marine Programme by all components of the Union, and others.

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

I. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN, in consultation with Council, to determine and implement measures, including financial and administrative steps, to maximize the effectiveness of the coastal and marine components of the IUCN Programme and to ensure that all activities are formulated, planned and executed in an integrated way.
CONCERNED that there are already areas which have become seriously degraded by the direct or indirect effects of human activities and that the rate of degradation is increasing rapidly;

RECOGNIZING that consideration must be given for the continued welfare of people who have customarily used marine areas;

BELIEVING that there are national and international responsibilities for the proper stewardship of the living and non-living resources of coastal and deeper ocean seas and the seabed, to ensure their maintenance and appropriate use for the direct benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations;

BELIEVING that the development of such stewardship will require coordination and integrated management of a number of potentially competing uses at international, regional, national and local levels;

RECOGNIZING that a number of initiatives have been taken at international, regional and national levels for the establishment of marine protected areas and for managing the use of marine areas on a sustainable basis, including:

- the Regional Seas Programme of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP);
- the Man and the Biosphere Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco);
- the Marine Science Programme of Unesco;
- the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme;
- initiatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the International Whaling Commission (IWC), and other international organizations;
- the proclamation of marine protected areas by 69 nations;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. CALLS upon national governments, international agencies and the nongovernmental community to:
   a. Implement integrated management strategies to achieve the objectives of the World Conservation Strategy in the coastal and marine environment and, in so doing, to consider local resource needs as well as national and international conservation and development responsibilities in the protection of the marine environment;
   b. Involve local people, nongovernmental organizations, related industries and other interested parties in the development of these strategies and in the implementation of various marine conservation programmes.

2. DECIDES ITSELF, and FURTHER RECOMMENDS to FAO, IMO, IWC, the legal instrument bodies of the North Sea, UNEP, Unesco, other international organizations, and all nations, that:
   a. The following primary goal be adopted: "To provide for the protection, restoration, wise use, understanding and enjoyment of the marine heritage of the world in perpetuity through the creation of a global, representative system of marine protected areas and through the management in accordance with the principles of the World Conservation Strategy of human activities that use or affect the marine environment";
   b. As an integral component of marine conservation and management, each national government should seek cooperative action between the public and all levels of government for development of a national system of marine protected areas. The term "marine protected areas" is defined as: "Any area of intertidal or subtidal terrain, together with its overlying waters and associated flora, fauna, historical and cultural features, which has been reserved by legislation to protect part or all of the enclosed environment";
   c. Such a system should have the following objectives:
      - to protect and manage substantial examples of marine and estuarine systems to ensure their long-term viability and to maintain genetic diversity;
      - to protect depleted, threatened, rare or endangered species and populations and, in particular, to preserve habitats considered critical for the survival of such species;
      - to protect and manage areas of significance to the life-cycles of economically important species;
      - to prevent outside activities from detrimentally affecting the marine protected areas;
      - to provide for the continued welfare of people affected by the creation of marine protected areas; to preserve, protect, and manage historical and cultural sites and natural aesthetic values of marine and estuarine areas, for present and future generations;
      - to facilitate the interpretation of marine and estuarine systems for the purposes of conservation, education, and tourism;
      - to accommodate within appropriate management regimes a broad spectrum of human activities compatible with the primary goal in marine and estuarine settings;
      - to provide for research and training, and for monitoring the environmental effects of human activities, including the direct and indirect effects of development and adjacent land-use practices;
   d. The development by a nation of such a system will be aided by agreement on a marine and estuarine classification system, including identified biogeographic areas; and by review of existing protected areas, to establish the level of representation of biogeographic categories within those areas, which may require:
      - determination of existing and planned levels of use of the marine and estuarine environment and the likely effects of such uses;
      - delineation of potential areas consistent with the objectives listed above, and determination of priorities for their establishment and management;
      - development and implementation of extensive community education programmes as a means of achieving such goals, and of additional assistance for their establishment and management;
      - allocation of sufficient resources for the development and implementation of management plans, for regulatory review processes, interpretation, education, training, volunteer programmes, research, monitoring, surveillance and enforcement programmes.

17.39 TROPICAL FORESTRY ACTION PLAN

WELCOMING the initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank and the World Resources Institute (WRI) in developing the Tropical Forestry Action Plan (TFAP), and NOTING the support of the international development assistance community for its implementation;

WELCOMING ESPECIALLY the importance that the TFAP attributes to the broad environmental role of forests as a basis for sustainable economic and social development;

RECOGNIZING that the implementation of TFAP would result in investments in establishing and managing protected areas and in the better sustained yield management of natural forests and would thus favour the maintenance of very extensive areas of tropical forests;

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that several of the TFAP components can contribute effectively to the reduction of human pressure on forest lands, to the halting of deforestation and to the restoration of degraded forests;

NOTING, however, that TFAP targets for investments in forest ecosystem conservation have not yet been met;
NOTING FURTHER the important role that nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) could have in the formulation and implementation of the TFAP at national level, and COMMENDING the determination of lead organizations in TFAP exercises to involve NGOs in the process;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. CALLS upon national NGOs to devise mechanisms, such as the nomination of representatives, for more effective participation by NGOs in TFAP implementation.

2. REQUESTS governments and development assistance agencies to allocate a substantial proportion of TFAP resources to the implementation of proposals contributing directly to the conservation of tropical forest ecosystems, and to the promotion of systems for the sustainable management of production forests.

3. REQUESTS FURTHER that investments under the TFAP be used to ensure adequate supplies of timber and firewood to local communities as a means of relieving pressure on natural forests of special conservation value, where possible by the restoration of degraded lands;

4. RECOMMENDS to the Forestry Advisers Group of the TFAP that a representative of citizen NGOs should participate in their meetings and that NGOs should be involved in all national sector reviews carried out under the TFAP.

5. RECOMMENDS FURTHER the elaboration and adoption of guidelines to ensure that ecosystem conservation issues are adequately addressed in TFAP donor coordination missions, that these missions should include a conservation scientist on the review team, and that the lead agency should take steps to obtain a full brief from IUCN concerning critical ecosystems and species at risk.

17.40 INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER AGREEMENT

CONSIDERING that a sustainable international trade in forest products may provide a sound basis for investment in maintaining tropical forest resources;

RECOGNIZING that, after adequate provision has been made for the establishment of protected areas, other areas of tropical forest, specially selected for the purpose, may justifiably be allocated for the sustainable production of timber and other high value products, provided that such management has been shown to be possible in these areas;

RECOGNIZING ALSO that this sustainable production may well serve the interests of conservation;

CONSIDERING that the better harmonization of interest between timber exporting and importing countries should provide a more stable market and therefore a sounder basis for sustainable forest management;

RECOGNIZING that one of the main aims of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) is to ensure a continuous supply of timber through the management of natural forests for sustained yield and that ITTO has a specific remit to promote national policies to this end;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10th February 1988:

1. URGES ITTO to give high priority, through its Permanent Committee on Reforestation and Forest Management, to those aspects of its work which are concerned with natural forest management and reforestation of degraded lands.

2. ALSO URGES the government members of ITTO to take action to limit the exploitation of forest for timber to those forests which are able to provide a sustained yield without significant deterioration, and to stop logging of forests identified as critical sites for the conservation of biological diversity and rights of indigenous peoples.

3. FURTHER URGES ITTO to make the fullest use of the knowledge and services of IUCN, other conservation organizations and indigenous peoples organizations in the identification and monitoring of such sites.

4. RECOMMENDS that ITTO should compile a list of rare, threatened and legally protected tropical timber species, and carry out detailed case studies on these, in order that they and their genetic variation may be protected, and measures taken to build up stocks by plantation. In this it should liaise closely with the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

5. CALLS on government members of ITTO to give full support to the Organisation, to propose projects along the above lines and to provide generous finance to the ITTO project fund for this purpose, and to do this in full cooperation with the Tropical Forestry Action Plan.

6. RECOMMENDS that IUCN work with ITTO in developing a portfolio of projects to encourage and promote only those forms of forest management and timber extraction that will ensure a sustained supply of timber, while maintaining to a substantial degree the biological diversity and structure of the forest, and preserving the rights of indigenous peoples.

17.41 RAMSAR CONVENTION AND WETLAND CONSERVATION LAW

RECOGNIZING the important achievements of the Third Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention), held at Regina, Canada, in May/June 1987, and in particular the establishment of a Standing Committee, Bureau and Budget;

WELCOMING the increase in the number of Contracting Parties, designated wetlands, and concern for wise use of wetlands;

EMPHASIZING the relevance of the Convention to developing countries;

NOTING that wetland conservation may more readily be achieved where adequate legal instruments for wetland conservation are available at the national level;

TAKING NOTE of the results of the Symposium, organized jointly by IUCN and the Société Française pour le droit de l’environnement, on Legal Aspects of the Conservation of Wetlands, held in Lyon, France, in September 1987;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. CALLS UPON:

   a. Contracting Parties to take immediate action on the Resolutions and Recommendations of the Regina Conference, and States that have not yet done so to become Contracting Parties;

   b. All members of IUCN to support the Ramsar Convention and to urge their governments to participate actively in the Convention.

2. URGES the Director General of IUCN to:

   a. Maintain IUCN's strong support for the Ramsar Convention, and in particular to continue the Agreement with the International Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Bureau (IWRB) on the Ramsar Bureau;
h. Pursue IUCN’s efforts in cooperation with national centres and institutions active in the field of wetlands conservation law; and, in particular,
c. Seek funding to permit the Environmental Law Programme of IUCN to take the lead in a global networking effort in this field, with a view to providing assistance to the Bureau of the Ramsar Convention concerning the wise use of wetlands.

17.42 IUCN WETLANDS PROGRAMME

RECOGNIZING the excellent progress the IUCN Wetlands Programme has achieved towards conservation and sustainable use of wetlands world-wide, and particularly in developing countries;

RECOGNIZING the global importance of wetlands, the recent and crucial strengthening of the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention), and the advantage of coordinating wetland conservation activities with that Convention’s Bureau;

RECOGNIZING FURTHER the quintessential role that wetlands provide in the well-being and development of rural communities and in the preservation of biological diversity;

APPROVING the Wetlands Programme’s broad focus on conservation and sustainable use of wetlands, as a means of ensuring that wetlands conservation is sustainable in the long term;

AWARE that far-reaching actions by both governments and development assistance institutions are needed to conserve wetlands worldwide;

RECOGNIZING the essential role that the nongovernmental organization (NGO) members of IUCN must play in carrying out the Wetlands Programme and in influencing major development aid agencies in favour of wetlands conservation and biological diversity;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. URGES governments and development assistance institutions to:
   a. Pursue policies and practices aimed at conservation, through wise use of wetlands, including requirements that environmental impact assessments be prepared before taking any action that would significantly affect the ecological character of wetlands;
   b. Develop methods of assessing wetland values and identifying future use options and give appropriate consideration to these values in decision-making;
   c. Encourage the active participation of local conservation and indigenous peoples’ organizations in the planning and implementation of activities or policies affecting wetlands;
   d. Provide to concerned or affected nongovernmental and community organizations, early in the preparation phase and at all subsequent stages of planning, full information concerning proposed development projects, policies, and loans that would significantly affect the ecological character of wetlands;
   e. Ensure adequate expertise concerning wetlands management and conservation, by establishing or strengthening training programmes.

2. FURTHER URGES development assistance institutions to coordinate their programmes at the international, regional, and country levels to ensure that their independent activities do not, in combination, adversely affect wetlands and that they cooperate in an affirmative action to conserve wetlands.

3. CALLS UPON all members of IUCN to participate actively in the Wetlands Programme.

4. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN, within the resources available, to:
   a. Maintain the broad focus of the Wetlands Programme on conservation and sustainable use of wetlands;
   b. Continue and expand the involvement of IUCN’s NGO members in the Wetlands Programme.
   c. Continue to promote the closest possible cooperation between IUCN’s Wetlands Programme and the Ramsar Convention.

17.43 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR PROMOTING THE CONCEPT OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPES AND SEASCAPES

NOTING that the majority of governments now recognize the necessity to link the conservation of natural resources with economic development, following the basic principles of the World Conservation Strategy and the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development;

RECOGNIZING that while Strict Nature Reserves and National Parks (IUCN Categories I and II) contribute to conservation and economic development through non-consumptive uses of natural resources, and conserve areas of natural habitat with minimum human influence, no single approach to conservation is sufficient;

REALIZING, in this connection, that areas where people are a permanent part of the landscape can demonstrate durable systems of use that provide economic livelihoods, are socially and spiritually satisfying, are in harmony with nature, and preserve the cultural identity of communities;

REALIZING FURTHER that:

a. Landscapes that have been materially altered by human activities often include species and ecosystems that are dependent on such activities;

b. Such landscapes can serve as buffer zones of more strictly protected areas;

c. They can provide for recreation and tourism, which can make an important contribution to the physical and mental health of visitors as well as help develop public support for environmental protection;

d. Such areas can form the basis for sustainable development over relatively large regions and thereby be of particular importance in many developing countries;

ACKNOWLEDGING

a. The great value of the management category of Protected Landscape (IUCN Category V) for controlling inappropriate land uses and development pressures in outstanding human modified landscapes;

b. The value of the Biosphere Reserve concept in linking human concerns with those of protected areas;

c. The specific mention in the World Heritage Convention’s Operational Guidelines of the value of areas with significant combinations of cultural and natural features;

d. The points made in the Lake District Declaration, which was unanimously adopted by the Symposium on Protected Landscapes held in the United Kingdom in October 1987;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. RECOMMENDS that, within the resources available, the Director General of IUCN should:
   a. Encourage IUCN members having experience and expertise in the establishment and management of protected landscapes and seascapes to make such expertise widely available to other IUCN members, (perhaps by using IUCN’s Commissions on National Parks and Protected Areas and on Sustainable Development as conduits);
b. Assign the Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas to:
   - critically evaluate, develop and promote further the criteria for Category V: Protected Landscapes and Seascapes;
   - develop management regimes for such areas;
   - work with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) and the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) to develop criteria for the consideration of sites with mixed cultural and natural values for the World Heritage List;

  c. Request IUCN's Commission on Environmental Policy, Law and Administration, within the resources available, to conduct a survey of legal regimes applicable to the establishment, management, and administration of protected landscapes and seascapes, and publish guidelines for establishing and implementing legal, administrative, and fiscal measures appropriate to the circumstances in different countries;

  d. Actively promote the work of IUCN's Conservation Monitoring Centre to maintain data files on all categories of protected areas, with a particular effort directed to improving data bases of those categories neglected to date, and to developing simple software which will enable governments and local management authorities to maintain their own compatible data bases on personal computers;

  e. Encourage IUCN's Conservation for Development Centre to work with governments and development assistance agencies to find ways and means to provide effective support to all categories of protected areas in developing countries as a concrete measure to harmonize conservation and development, and to ensure that the concept of different categories of protected areas is fully incorporated in any national conservation strategy that IUCN may be supporting;

  f. Explore, via IUCN's programme in the regions, the application of ecodesvelopment techniques in the sustainable use of protected landscapes.

2. FURTHER RECOMMENDS that governments and their agencies should:

   a. Examine their systems of protected areas and other conservation measures, and develop, where necessary, designations and legal regimes for categories of protected areas that include people living permanently within the boundaries of the area;

   b. Encourage the World Heritage Committee to adopt the principle that selected protected landscapes possessing significant harmonious associations of cultural and natural features can be considered as being of outstanding universal value and worthy of inscription on the World Heritage List;

   c. Support other international efforts — such as the Action Plan for Biosphere Reserves and the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention) — which promote effective management of protected landscapes in ways which respond also to the needs and aspirations of resident populations;

   d. Promote, in particular through the Council of Europe and the European Federation of Nature and National Parks, the establishment of an International Seminar on Protected Areas in Europe, as an effective means of two-way transfer of knowledge about how to manage areas of outstanding conservation value that contain resident human populations;

   e. Develop further ways and means for ensuring that people who live in and around protected landscapes are encouraged, with incentives where appropriate, to maintain a harmonious balance with the environment.

17.44 PRIVATE PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM

CONSIDERING that:

   a. Privately owned areas of ecological importance are found in many countries throughout the world;

   b. Government efforts for the protection and sustainable management of natural resources have been significantly furthered by the protection of such resources on areas of private land;

   c. Private protected areas can be threatened by poachers, squatters and other factors which can degrade their natural resources;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. WELCOMES the establishment of private protected areas in countries where they are appropriate.

2. REQUESTS IUCN's Commission on Environmental Policy, Law and Administration, within the resources available, to conduct a survey of legal regimes applicable to the establishment, management, and administration of private protected areas, and publish guidelines for establishing and implementing legal, administrative and fiscal measures appropriate to the circumstances in different countries.

3. ENCOURAGES governments to establish incentives and enact legislation in order to promote the protection and sustainable management of natural resources on privately owned land.

17.45 CREATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF PLANT GERMPLASM BANKS

CONSIDERING that plant germplasm banks are an efficient tool for the ex situ conservation of the genetic diversity of the world's plant heritage;

BEARING IN MIND that by in vitro propagation of endangered or locally extinct plant species it is possible to obtain plants for reintroductory into their natural habitats;

RECALLING that IUCN operates an international Botanical Gardens Conservation Secretariat;

RECALLING the recommendations of the international conference in Córdoba, Spain, May 1987, on conservation techniques for endangered plant species in botanical gardens of the Mediterranean area;

CONSIDERING the international coordination and cooperation necessary for the conservation of the world's plant heritage;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. URGES that every effort be made to secure resources that will permit the creation of an international network of plant germplasm banks coordinated by the IUCN Botanical Gardens Conservation Secretariat.

2. RECOMMENDS that such plant germplasm banks be sited in countries in the region of origin and that the country of origin be involved in the distribution of reproductive and clonal material.
PROMOTING CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY: SPECIES AND SITES

17.46 WHALING

RECALLING IUCN’s support for a moratorium on commercial whaling as expressed in resolutions passed at each General Assembly since such a moratorium was proposed by the United Nations in 1972;

RECOGNIZING that Article VIII of the 1946 International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (under which the International Whaling Commission (IWC) is established) allows Contracting Parties to issue special permits to their nationals for the taking of whales for scientific purposes, and that paragraph 30 of the Schedule makes this conditional on such permits first being reviewed by the IWC Scientific Committee and that such whaling is exempt from the procedures and regulations governing commercial whaling, including the setting of catch limits and the protection of species or populations;

NOTING that since the IWC’s 1982 decision in favour of a moratorium went into effect in 1986, the Governments of Iceland, the Republic of Korea, and Japan have engaged in or have authorized scientific research involving the killing of large numbers of whales under special permits;

AWARE that the Government of Norway is considering the issuance of special permits this year;

BEING INFORMED that the IWC adopted at its 1987 Annual Meeting three resolutions which affirmed that the scientific whaling programmes of Iceland, the Republic of Korea and Japan did not satisfy criteria which the Commission had established by general resolutions adopted at its 1986 and 1987 Annual Meetings, and called on those countries to refrain from issuing or to revoke special permits until the uncertainties identified in the programmes were resolved;

BEING FURTHER INFORMED that at a special meeting of the IWC Scientific Committee held in December 1987 to review a proposed feasibility study for the scientific whaling programming of Japan, scientists from most countries represented at the meeting advised that the proposed study would not resolve the problems previously identified in the original programme and, further, that the study did not address problems, the solution of which was necessary to facilitate the Comprehensive Assessment of Whale Stocks, on which the Commission is now engaged or for development of effective management procedures for future whaling;

DEPLORING the fact that Iceland and Japan have not complied with the 1987 resolutions of the IWC by refraining from issuing or by revoking existing permits;

DEEPLY CONCERNED that the Government of Japan issued permits for taking minke whales in the Antarctic immediately after the Scientific Committee had, at its special meeting, severely criticised its plans, and began killing whales before the Commission had had an opportunity to express its view on those plans as required by the general resolutions adopted in 1986 and 1987;

FURTHER CONCERNED that continuation of whaling under special permits contrary to recommendations of the IWC will effectively negate the 1982 moratorium decision, reduce the effectiveness of the IWC in providing for the conservation of whale stocks world-wide, and impede in practice the conduct of the Comprehensive Assessment of Whale Stocks;

AWARE that contrary to IWC decisions and schedule requirements, Iceland, Japan, and Norway have refused to supply data on whaling vessels;

BEING AWARE that Japan, with support from Norway, has proposed that some types of commercial whaling be reclassified as aboriginal/subsistence whaling;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. URGES the Governments of Iceland, the Republic of Korea and Japan to abide by the resolutions of the International Whaling Commission calling upon them to refrain from issuing, or to revoke, special permits for whaling for scientific purposes until the uncertainties identified by the IWC’s Scientific Committee have been resolved.

2. REQUESTS the Government of Norway, in taking its eventual decisions about the issuance of special permits, to act in accordance with the advice to be provided by the Scientific Committee and with the view to be taken by the Commission on the basis of that advice.

3. ENCOURAGES the Governments of Iceland, the Republic of Korea, and Norway, as well as other IWC Member States, to contribute to the implementation of research identified by the Scientific Committee as high priority, particularly in the context of the Comprehensive Assessment of Whale Stocks.

4. URGES Iceland, Japan, and Norway to adhere to Commission requirements and resume the annual supply of data on whaling vessels to the Commission.

5. CALLS UPON any country now contemplating the conduct of commercial whaling in the guise of subsistence whaling, to refrain from this attempt to circumvent the 1982 decision of the IWC that established zero quotas.

17.47 SEA TURTLES

RECALLING that Kemp’s Ridley (Lepidochelys kempii) Sea Turtle was included in IUCN’s Species Survival Commission’s list of twelve most endangered species in 1986, and that their continued decline is largely due to the numbers drowned in shrimp trawl nets;

FURTHER RECALLING the effectiveness of the turtle exclusion device (TED) in the prevention of sea turtle incidental catch by shrimp trawlers;

CONSIDERING that legal action has been taken to invalidate the United States Government’s promulgation of the TED Regulations;

RECOGNIZING the importance of the IUCN General Assembly providing support to the United States Government for this valuable effort in what is a world-wide problem in sea turtle conservation;

CONCERNED that many sea turtle populations continue to decline as a direct result of human exploitation;

FURTHER CONCERNED that the level of international trade in sea turtle products, particularly of the shell and skin, remains very high, and that in many countries the level of national trade, particularly in meat and eggs, continues unabated;

RECOGNIZING that there are many other contributing factors to population declines, such as disturbance and destruction of the nesting and foraging habitats, ingestion of ocean debris and toxic pollutants, and incidental catch in different types of fishing gear;

CONSIDERING that scientists are currently unable to predict sustainable levels of exploitation due to insufficient knowledge of vital parameters of sea turtle biology;

NOTING that the immature stages of the life cycle are the most susceptible to natural predation, and that it is the breeding adults, rather than the young, that are most important for the survival of the population, and therefore most damaging to exploit;
RECALLING that most examples of sea turtle management have followed traditional fishery patterns and established minimum size limits to protect the juvenile age classes;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. URGES the United States Senate to oppose any delay in implementation of federal regulations requiring the use of TEDs needed to prevent the capture and drowning of the critically endangered Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle or any other species of sea turtle.

2. URGES member governments to enact and enforce national legislation to increase the conservation of sea turtles:
   a. Institute maximum size limits to ensure that no turtles of breeding age are killed, and study the possibility of establishing quotas for the capture of juveniles where it is culturally inappropriate to provide full protection for all age classes of sea turtles;
   b. Restrict egg collection to minimize the negative impact on the population where it is culturally inappropriate to prevent the collection of sea turtle eggs altogether;
   c. Protect the nesting beaches and foraging habitats to minimize disturbance, damage and other activities disruptive to sea turtle reproduction;
   d. Where sea turtles are present, require use of TEDs by shrimp trawlers, and control all other fishing methods as needed to minimize incidental catch, particularly off the nesting beaches during the breeding season.

3. RECOMMENDS that IUCN members initiate research programmes in consultation with the Species Survival Commission to determine the long-term trends in the sea turtle populations wherever exploitation occurs, in particular, the impact of exploitation on the different age classes.

4. FURTHER RECOMMENDS that IUCN members initiate education programmes in sea turtle conservation to ensure the understanding and participation of the local people in the implementation of the above.

5. CALLS UPON member governments in accordance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to cease all international trade in sea turtles, their parts and derivatives, especially tortoiseshell derived from the Hawksbill Sea Turtle (Eretmochelys imbricata).

17.48 CONSERVATION OF THE BALTIC RINGED SEAL (Phoca hispida botnica)

ALARMED by the substantial decline of the populations of ringed seals, grey seals and harbour seals in the Baltic Sea in this century;

CONCERNED that all three seal species of the Baltic Sea are suffering from severe ailments and a high degree of reproductive failure, most probably due to organochlorine pollution in the Baltic;

WELCOMING the fact that all the seven states bordering the Baltic Sea have banned hunting of the grey seal and the harbour seal and taken steps to stop discharges of DDT and PCBs into the marine environment in accordance with the recommendation of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (Helsinki Commission);

AWARE that six states and the Aland Islands do not hunt or have banned hunting of the Baltic Ringed Seal;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

STRONGLY URGES the Government of Finland, as the last nation bordering the Baltic Sea to allow hunting of ringed seals, to take immediate measures to stop hunting of the Baltic Ringed Seal in order to allow the population to recover.

17.49 CITES IVORY QUOTA SYSTEM

RECOGNIZING that the Contracting Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) have recently adopted special procedures for the control of trade in ivory from African elephants, which are generally referred to as the "Quota System", and have directed the CITES Secretariat to assist in the implementation of the Quota System with financing from voluntary contributions;

AWARE that there has been a sharp decline in elephant populations in many parts of Africa in recent years, that illegal trade in ivory has been the major cause of the decline, and that effective coordination of the Quota System by the CITES Secretariat is essential if the illegal trade in ivory is to be reduced;

AWARE of the special problems of illegal trade in ivory involving Burundi and the United Arab Emirates noted in Resolution Conf.6.11 at the last meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, and further noting the requirements of Resolution Conf.6.12 with respect to the registration of stocks of raw ivory;

RECOGNIZING that continued large scale illegal trade in ivory will imperil a resource of great socio-economic value to African states with elephant populations;

CONSCIOUS that the CITES Secretariat has not raised sufficient voluntary contributions to ensure the effective functioning of the Quota System until the next Conference of the Parties;

RECOGNIZING that this shortage of funds could jeopardize the long-term conservation of African elephant populations;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. URGES governments, nongovernmental organizations, trade groups and other appropriate agencies to provide financial assistance to the CITES Secretariat for the operation of the Quota System.

2. URGES the Contracting Parties to CITES to include, at the next Conference of the Parties, the financing of the Quota System within the ordinary CITES budget funded by the Contracting Parties.

3. URGES the CITES Secretariat not to approve international trade in any unregistered raw ivory held within a State not Party to CITES without the consent of the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

17.50 CONSERVATION OF THE GIANT PANDA

RECOGNIZING that the Giant Panda (Ailuropoda melanoleuca) is endemic to the People's Republic of China, and has been a species of great interest to biological science for over a century;

APPRECIATING that the Government of the People's Republic of China has devoted much attention and considerable financial resources to the conservation of the Giant Panda;

NOTING that the Giant Panda is a species that is unusually well known to the peoples of the world, and, through use of its image by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), has come to symbolize to governments and peoples of the world, the universal need for wildlife conservation;
UNDERSTANDING that there may be less than 1000 of these animals in the wild and 100 in captivity, which are critically low numbers for survival of the species;

RESOLVING that every effort should be made to keep the Giant Panda from extinction;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. COMMENDS the Government of the People's Republic of China for passing wildlife laws and regulations that protect the Giant Panda and for the establishment of reserves to maintain the Giant Panda's natural environment.

2. STRONGLY ENCOURAGES the Government of the People's Republic of China to respond to increasing world-wide concern for the survival of the Giant Panda by adopting a comprehensive conservation plan for the species and fully implementing that plan as quickly as possible, including full utilization of the scientific, technical and educational resources of institutes and universities of the People's Republic of China.

3. SPECIFICALLY RECOMMENDS adoption of a long-term strategic and tactical conservation plan for the Giant Panda.

4. CALLS UPON all agencies and individuals in the People's Republic of China to cooperate in such a conservation plan, preferably under a single directorate so that actions can be coordinated and controlled to best effect in securing the Giant Panda in its natural environment and in ensuring that any animals held in captivity contribute to the maintenance and perpetuation of the Giant Panda population as a whole.

5. URGES authorities of the People's Republic of China to provide for the early rehabilitation to the wild of pandas rescued from temporarily or permanently degraded habitats.

6. FURTHER URGES that all organizations and institutions now holding Giant Pandas cooperate fully to incorporate these animals in an international programme for captive propagation and that the free interchange of captive specimens for this purpose be facilitated by all governmental and intergovernmental agencies concerned.

7. RECOMMENDS that the effects of other activities involving Giant Pandas that may not directly contribute to the conservation of the species, especially temporary exhibitions, be investigated by the appropriate authorities and scientists of the People's Republic of China, in consultation with international conservation groups and the zoological associations of several countries, and that until the issues involved in these matters are resolved, careful consideration be given before further loan agreements are made.

8. FURTHER RECOMMENDS that, in consideration of the low population numbers of the species, scientists and governmental authorities of the People's Republic of China specifically consider the proposition that any exhibition of Giant Pandas should only be adjunct to and completely compatible with an international captive breeding programme for the species; and that such exhibits should be designed for the education of people about the biology and conservation of the Giant Panda; and that any revenues specially generated from exhibitions should be devoted to support specific aspects of the conservation plan for the species and accounted for in keeping with this goal.


10. AGREES to stand ready, within the resources available, with its member organizations and WWF, to assist responsible authorities in the People's Republic of China in the implementation of a comprehensive conservation plan for the Giant Panda, including design and execution of needed research, advice on park and reserve management, coordination of captive breeding programmes, establishment and management of an international studbook and development of popular education projects.

17.51 INTRODUCTIONS OF CARNIVOROUS SNAILS FOR BIOLOGICAL CONTROL PURPOSES

AWARE that high diversity and endemism of terrestrial mollusc species is a significant characteristic of many islands in the Caribbean Sea, and the Indian and Pacific Oceans;

CONCERNED that many of these unique molluscan faunas are now seriously threatened;

RECOGNIZING that, in addition to habitat destruction, the presence of exotic carnivorous snails, in particular Euglandina rosea, introduced as biological control agents for the introduced crop pest Achatina fulica (Giant African Snail), has caused dramatic population declines in many endemic native land snails on many islands;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that Euglandina rosea is known to have caused the extinction of native snail species in French Polynesia and Hawaii, and may have caused extinctions elsewhere;

NOTING that carnivorous snails are not effective control agents for the giant African snail, and that unsuccessful trials were carried out before their recommendation as control agents;

AWARE that national and regional organizations concerned with agriculture are still recommending the use of such agents for biological control;

NOTING that there is no currently effective method for eradicating Euglandina rosea once it has been introduced to an island;

FURTHER NOTING that the IUCN Species Survival Commission, in its Position Statement on "Translocation of Living Organisms", states that no alien species should be deliberately introduced into any natural habitat;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. STRONGLY RECOMMENDS that introductions of carnivorous snails in habitats with endemic land snail species be prohibited.

2. REQUESTS that appropriate government agencies, agricultural and other relevant institutions be circulated with information stressing the danger of such untested biological control efforts.

3. SUGGESTS that regional organizations concerned with agriculture and the environment should be charged with circulating the necessary information.

4. URGES further research into other methods of controlling the giant African snail, such as collection by hand, and into methods of eradicating Euglandina rosea.

17.52 ANTARCTICA

RECALLING Resolution 16/8 of the 16th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (1984) about the concerns of IUCN with regard to Antarctica;

RECALLING ALSO Resolution 16/9 setting out steps to be taken by the Director General of IUCN in implementing Resolution 16/8;

DESIRING to maintain and extend the dialogue between IUCN and the Parties to the intergovernmental agreements that constitute the Antarctic Treaty System;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. STRONGLY REAFFIRMS Resolution 16/8 as a statement of IUCN's policy with respect to Antarctica.

2. URGES that those to whom the operative paragraphs are respectively addressed, continue to take full account of the concerns and objectives therein set out.
3. RECOMMENDS that the following considerations and recommendations, related to Resolution 16/8 and arising out of events since the 16th Session of the General Assembly, be brought to the attention of those to whom they are respectively addressed:

A. THE ANTARCTIC ENVIRONMENT

Antarctic Conservation Strategy

4. NOTES the Proceedings of the IUCN/SCAR (Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research) Symposium on Scientific Requirements for Antarctic Conservation, April 1985, held in response to the call for collaboration between IUCN and SCAR to review current ecological knowledge of the Antarctic continent, its offlying islands and the surrounding ocean areas in the context of conservation needs.

5. NOTES with appreciation the Report of the IUCN/SCAR Working Group on Long-term Conservation in the Antarctic (1986) and that this was accepted by the President of SCAR and the Director General of IUCN as a basis for further discussion.

6. NOTES ALSO the urgent need to proceed with the development of a conservation strategy for the Antarctic.

7. RECOMMENDS that:

a. With the assistance of the Director General of IUCN and relevant IUCN Commissions, work be put in hand towards the elaboration of an Antarctic Conservation Strategy (ACS);

b. The ACS should apply to the Antarctic Treaty Area and to the area between 60° latitude south and the Antarctic convergence, and that with respect to islands within that area where the existence of State sovereignty is recognized, IUCN should promote the development of conservation strategies in respect of such of these islands for which conservation strategies have not already been developed by the State exercising sovereignty;

c. The elaboration of the ACS should be the outcome of a three-way dialogue between IUCN, SCAR and other members of the Antarctic scientific community, and the Antarctic governmental community; and the good offices of the Director General should be sought towards this end.

Environmental impact assessment

8. NOTES with appreciation the response(1) of SCAR to the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) to the request put to it by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties (ATCPs) in Recommendation XII-3 for advice regarding procedures for the assessment of the environmental impacts of proposed scientific and logistic activities in the Antarctic.

9. NOTES IN ADDITION the suggestion by SCAR that the application of environmental impact assessment procedures may identify and avoid adverse environmental impacts from the siting and/or concentration of stations.

10. NOTES ALSO the close similarity between the “Goals and Principles on Environmental Impact Assessment” adopted at the June 1987 Session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the procedure for evaluating impacts from scientific and logistic activities recommended by SCAR for use in the Antarctic context.

11. WELCOMES the adoption by the ATCPs of Recommendation XIV-2 on environmental impact assessment of their scientific and logistic activities, based on principles elaborated by both UNEP and SCAR.

12. STRONGLY URGES the ATCPs to approve this Recommendation at the earliest opportunity, to apply it forthwith on an interim basis, to ensure adequate public dissemination of comprehensive environmental evaluations, and to ensure the participation of nongovernmental organizations in the Party States in the decision called for in accordance with paragraph 1 (vi) of that Recommendation.

13. ENCOURAGES the ATCPs to consult such international organizations as may, from time to time, be designated by the ATCPs to assist them in their work on environmental matters.

Additional protective arrangements

14. NOTES with appreciation the response(2) of SCAR to the request put to it by the ATCPs in Recommendation XIII-5 operative subparagraph (i) for advice regarding the system of protected areas in the Antarctic, including Sites of Special Scientific Interest and Specially Protected Areas, and the question of a possible additional category of area under a different form of protection.


16. URGES the ATCPs to undertake the necessary field investigations prior to the preparatory meeting for the XV ATCM to provide an adequate and representative basis for decisions to be taken at the XV ATCM.

17. STRONGLY URGES the ATCPs to adopt and implement a coherent system for the protection of areas in the Antarctic where such action would contribute towards the protection of the Antarctic as a wilderness area and for scientific, recreational, and other peaceful purposes; apply to the Antarctic Treaty Area, as appropriate, the progressive development of concepts in multiple land/ocean use planning; and thereby assist in substantiating the designation of the Antarctic Treaty Area as a Special Conservation Area (Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora, Preamble).

Environmental data

18. NOTES with appreciation the request put to SCAR by the ATCPs in Recommendation XIII-5 operative subparagraph (ii) for advice regarding steps that could be taken to improve the comparability and accessibility of scientific data on the Antarctic.

19. WISHES TO STRESS the need for sufficient information to be available as a basis for making sound judgements relating to the environmental consequences of human activities.

20. NOTES that the foregoing principle is particularly relevant to the Antarctic about which relatively little is known.

21. URGES the ATCPs, in cooperation with SCAR, IUCN and other relevant international organizations and experts, to cooperate closely in collecting, maintaining and having available, information and data bases relevant to the making of informed environmental judgements.

Waste disposal

22. NOTES with grave concern that evidence has come to light that suggests that there have been some lapses in the application of the Code of Conduct for Antarctic Expeditions and Station Activities annexed to Recommendation VIII-11, insofar as it relates to waste disposal.

23. AWARE that the matter of waste disposal is one of ongoing concern to the ATCPs, their respective Antarctic operating agencies and to SCAR (Recommendations XII-3 and XIII-4).

24. CONVINCED that if the ATCPs are to demonstrate their ability and commitment to protect the Antarctic environment, they must adequately protect the immediate vicinity of Antarctic stations and operations from environmental degradation.

25. ACKNOWLEDGES paragraphs 71 through 74 of the report of the XIV ATCM.

26. RECOMMENDS that the ATCPs take urgent and adequate steps to ensure that waste disposal practices for use in the Antarctic are such as will safeguard the Antarctic environment and its dependent ecosystems.
27. RECOMMENDS FURTHER that while revising the Code of Conduct for Waste Disposal they provide that:
   a. Any waste must be removed from the Antarctic Treaty Area unless it is demonstrated that it would not have a significant local impact;
   b. Existing waste disposal sites be cleaned up;
   c. The amount of waste generated be minimized through careful consideration of the nature and volume of materials taken into the Antarctic which are likely to become or generate waste;
   d. The re-use or recycling of waste materials be encouraged;
   e. Regular monitoring of the impacts of waste disposal be required of all stations;
   f. Governments continue to monitor technological and logistical developments that would allow for improvement in waste disposal practices.

Provisions in accordance with these recommendations should be incorporated in the Revised Code of Conduct for Waste Disposal, and governments should be required to observe the Revised Code for all Antarctic expeditions and station activities.

Tourism

28. RECOGNIZING that tourism in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean has increased substantially in recent years and is likely to continue to increase in the future.

29. CONCERNED with the potential adverse impacts of increased tourism on the fragile Antarctic environment and its value as a relatively pristine laboratory for scientific research.

30. RECOMMENDS to the ATCPs that they codify existing practice with regard to tourism and take such additional steps as may be necessary to control the potential adverse impacts of Antarctic tourism.

31. RECOMMENDS that IUCN encourage its governmental members, including in particular those in countries that are not Consultative Parties to the Antarctic Treaty, to take appropriate steps to ensure that tours and expeditions organized in or proceeding from their territories are made aware of the requirements for Antarctic tour operators adopted pursuant to the Antarctic Treaty and comply with them, in order to avoid adverse impacts on the Antarctic environment and Antarctic scientific research activities.

B. THE SOUTHERN OCEAN

Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)

32. NOTES with grave concern that stocks of Antarctic fin fish have been reduced, due to fishing, to levels below those which ensure their greatest net annual increment; that Article II of the Convention defines stocks harvested below that level as being depleted, requiring that action be taken to ensure their recovery; and that the CCAMLR Commission has failed to act accordingly.

33. AWARE that one of the strengths claimed for CCAMLR is that it provides machinery for the regulation of fishing activity in such a manner as to ensure sustainable use, in terms consistent with the World Conservation Strategy (WCS), thus providing for maximum benefit for humankind while also protecting all elements of the Antarctic marine ecosystem.

34. AWARE that attention is now turning to the possibilities of large scale harvesting of krill and squid and that no precautionary conservation measures are yet in place to ensure biologically and economically sustainable use of these resources.

35. WARMLY WELCOMES the preliminary steps taken at the VI session of CCAMLR, on the initiative of Australia, to embark on the elaboration of possible approaches to conservation to give effect to Article II of the Convention by means of the mechanisms provided for in Article IX, as well as the advice provided by the Commission to the Scientific Committee as to conservation objectives sought by the Commission.

36. STRONGLY URGES the Parties to CCAMLR that, in consideration of such approaches, they have regard to the principles set out in paragraphs 17 and 18 of Resolution 16/8 of the 16th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (1984) and seek urgently to implement them.

37. FURTHER URGES that a registry of all fishing and related vessels be created and maintained by the CCAMLR Secretariat.

Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Seals (CCAS)

38. NOTES that 4800 seals were taken from the Antarctic in the 1986-87 season by two vessels; that if this presages the development of a commercial Antarctic sealing industry, the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Seals (CCAS) requires that certain mechanisms of catch reporting, scientific advice and institutional infrastructure be further elaborated.

39. CONCERNED that the conservation measures contained in the Annex to the Convention are such as to allow for the taking of the maximum permissible catch of seals in any one year from one sealing zone and that this concentration may have a more severe ecological impact than a dispersed catch.

40. COMMENDS the decision by the Parties to CCAS to hold a meeting in September 1988, in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention, for the purpose of reviewing the operation of the Convention and its relationship with other elements of the Antarctic Treaty System.

41. ENCOURAGES the Parties to CCAS to consider adopting more detailed procedures as appropriate to give effect to the conservation of Antarctic seals.

C. ANTARCTIC MINERALS

42. NOTES that the ATCPs are moving towards the final stages of the negotiation of an Antarctic Minerals Convention (AMC).

43. RECOMMENDS that the Convention provide for:
   a. Adequate evaluation of the potential adverse environmental impacts of any proposed activity or decision before a determination is made to proceed;
   b. Observers invited to participate in the meetings of the institutions established by the Convention to have full and timely access to non-confidential data and information relevant to pending decisions of these institutions and to comment on these prior to final determinations;
   c. Public access to information on environmental considerations, at all stages;
   d. Compliance, monitoring and liability to ensure environmental protection by operators and governments.

44. RECOMMENDS to the ATCPs that they make the negotiating text of the AMC freely available for public scrutiny and comment as soon as possible and, in any case, before the final stages of the negotiating process, and that they ensure that there are adequate provisions in the Convention relating to environmental protection, opportunity for observer participation, public comment, compliance, and liability.

45. FURTHER RECOMMENDS that each ATCP make available a public record of all non-confidential information and documentation generated pursuant to the Convention in a timely manner, and provide for public review and comment.

D. COMPLIANCE

46. NOTES that the Antarctic Treaty System comprises a complex series of Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting Recommendations and separate intergovernmental agreements, which have been built up over a period of almost 30 years; that there exists within this system both mandatory and hortative elements; and that the whole is intended to provide for the management of Antarctic activities according to principles set down in these agreements.
47. CONCERNED that, as the number of parties to these agreements increases, the opportunity arises for differing sovereign interpretations of the obligations undertaken by States under these agreements, and that such differences may compromise the effectiveness of the system in achieving its intended purposes.

48. RECOMMENDS to the ATCPs that they:

a. Review the Antarctic Treaty Recommendations to distinguish mandatory from hortative elements, and consider improving and upgrading any elements as appropriate;

b. Increase the number of inspections conducted pursuant to Article VII of the Antarctic Treaty;

c. Arrange for international inspection teams, and invite participation by representatives of international organizations having a scientific or technical interest in Antarctica;

d. Consider how any observation of non-compliance with the system of obligations can be appropriately dealt with so as to better avoid incidents of non-compliance, including consideration of an infractions committee.

49. FURTHER RECOMMENDS that all Non-Consultative Parties before operating in the Antarctic Treaty Area, approve recommendations adopted pursuant to the Antarctic Treaty.

E. LIASON BETWEEN THE ANTARCTIC TREATY SYSTEM AND IUCN

50. NOTES that IUCN has observer status with the CCAMLR Commission and Scientific Committee and that an IUCN expert participated in the XIV Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting to assist the Consultative Parties in their consideration of the item on the agenda for that meeting relating to “Man’s Impact on the Antarctic Environment’’.

51. RECOMMENDS ALSO that:

a. The ATCPs accord observer status to IUCN (3) at the final session of the Fourth Special Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting at which it is intended that the negotiations of the Antarctic Minerals Convention be concluded;

b. The Parties to the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Seals accord observer status to IUCN at any meeting held under Article 7 to review the operation of CCAS;

c. In relation to additional protective measures, tourism and environmental data, the ATCPs be urged to consult IUCN;

d. The Parties to the Antarctic Treaty ensure effective participation by IUCN and other international organizations, observers and experts invited to attend Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings.


(3) IUCN has members in all of the States which are Consultative Parties to the Antarctic Treaty (information as of January 1988, asterisks indicate those which are State members of the Union):

Argentina* Austria
Australia* Brazil
Belgium* Chile
People’s Republic of China
France* German Democratic Republic
Federal Republic of Germany
India*

IUCN also has members in most States which are Non-Consultative Parties to the Antarctic Treaty (information as of January 1988, asterisks indicate those which are State members of the Union):

Austria Greece*
Belgium Hungary
Brazil
Czechoslovakia Republic of Korea
Democratic People’s Republic of Korea
Denmark* The Netherlands
Ecuador* Papua New Guinea
Finland* Peru

17.53 THE ANTARCTIC: MINERALS ACTIVITY

RECOGNIZING the unique qualities of Antarctica, the ethical and other values attached to its status as the last vast realm on earth that is essentially pristine wilderness, its value as a relatively unpolled site for the monitoring of global pollution, and that the ideal is to conserve it for all time;

RECALLING that the last two Sessions of the General Assembly of IUCN (1981 and 1984), and the World National Parks Congress held in Bali, Indonesia, in 1982, have expressed concern about the threat of mineral activity to the Antarctic environment;

RECALLING also that Resolution 16/8 of the IUCN General Assembly (1984) recommended that no mineral activity should take place in Antarctica until such time as consideration has been given to protecting the Antarctic environment completely, the environmental risks have been fully ascertained, and safeguards developed to avoid adverse environmental effects;

RECOGNIZING that the Ninth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting urged their member and other States to refrain from all exploration or exploitation of Antarctic mineral resources while making progress towards the adoption of an agreed legal regime concerning Antarctic mineral resource activities;

RECALLING also that the Group of Experts on Mineral Exploration and Exploitation established at the Ninth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (London, 1977) stated in its report that “There are no effective methods for the full restoration of sites on land, or at sea in the Antarctic disturbed by mineral exploration or exploitation”;

NOTING also that one of the objectives of a minerals regime is to safeguard the Antarctic environment, and that the viewpoint has frequently been expressed by Treaty Parties that mineral activities are not likely to be commercially viable until well into the next century;

WISHING to ensure that adequate consideration is given to the desirability of fully protecting the Antarctic from mineral activities and for the development of a conservation strategy that includes options for protected area designations for the Antarctic as a whole;

CONCERNED that the proposed Antarctic Minerals Convention at present being negotiated may not provide a framework that totally guarantees environmental protection, and that if minerals exploration and exploitation were to be inaugurated, the wilderness qualities and scientific values of Antarctica could be irreversibly destroyed;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San Jose, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. RECOMMENDS that the Antarctic Conservation Strategy provided for in IUCN Recommendation 17.52 include an option prohibiting the extraction of mineral resources from the Antarctic.
2. RECOMMENDS to the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties that they:
   a. Declare their intent to conserve Antarctica for all time;
   b. Urgently consider the likely effects of minerals activity on the Antarctic environment and its inherent qualities and values;
   c. Give serious consideration to the desirability of prohibiting the extraction of minerals from the Antarctic, and to accord to Antarctica a designation as a protected area consistent with such a prohibition;
   d. Take full account of views of Non-Consultative Parties and appropriate nongovernmental organizations regarding the Minerals Convention.
3. URGES the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties:
   a. To ensure that scientific research programmes to provide sufficient information on which to base rational assessment and judgments in accordance with the Convention are implemented in advance of need;
   b. Not to authorize exploration and development until a protocol covering liability and detailed arrangements covering compliance and dispute settlement, creating an adequate framework for environmental protection, have been set in place.
4. URGES the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to respect the strong case on conservation grounds for refraining from mineral exploration and development activities in the Antarctic.

17.54 MOUNT ETNA, AUSTRALIA

RECOGNIZING that Mount Etna in central Queensland, Australia, contains caves which provide breeding habitat for the Little bent-winged bat (Miniopterus australis) and roosting sites of the vulnerable Ghost bat (Macrotis gigas);

RECOGNIZING that between 1976 and 1988 the Queensland Government and the Central Queensland Cement Company have successfully negotiated to establish effective legislative protection of 80 per cent of the Mount Etna caves, including the Bat Cleft complex;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that in 1976 the Fitzroy Caves National Park was established, conserving at least 100 caves and their dependent bats in an area adjacent to Mount Etna;

COMMENDING the Queensland Government's moves towards protecting a large section of Mount Etna's environs;

CONCERNED that limestone mining could be a threat to a number of the caves including Ghost bat roosting sites;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:
1. ENCOURAGES the Queensland Government in its efforts further to protect the environs of Mount Etna.
2. CALLS on the Queensland Government to extend total protection to Mount Etna, its caves and wildlife.
3. RECOMMENDS to the Queensland Government the development of a long-term state-wide management strategy for Ghost bat conservation.

17.55 WESTERN TASMANIA WORLD HERITAGE STAGE II, AUSTRALIA

RECOGNIZING that Western Tasmania is one of the world's great temperate wildernesses and Stage II contains giant eucalypt forests including the world's tallest flowering plants, the only ice-free sheet plateau in the Southern Hemisphere, and substantial tracts of fire sensitive alpine and rainforest communities;

ARE AWARE that:
   a. These forests are threatened principally by logging and fires lit by people;
   b. IUCN has urged inclusion of the Walls of Jerusalem and Denison-Spires regions within the Western Tasmanian World Heritage area;
   c. The Australian Government has instituted an inquiry into the Southern Forest and Lemonthyme sections of Stage II; and
   d. In January 1988, the Australian Heritage Commission reported that the natural and cultural values of Stage II are of world significance.

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:
1. CALLS ON the Tasmanian Government to cease all logging operations in the Western Tasmania Stage II area.
2. URGES the Australian Government, while consulting with the Tasmanian Government, to move rapidly towards nominating Western Tasmania Stage II for World Heritage listing.

17.56 NAM CHOAN DAM, THAILAND

REMINDING the Government of Thailand that the 5000 km² of tropical forest in the Thung Yai and Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuaries, and especially the lowland riverine forest, are of regional importance for the conservation of threatened and endangered species, such as the banteng, gaur, tiger, elephant, green peafowl and many species of plants, and that these forests are of national importance for watershed protection;

ARE AWARE that the area has been proposed for inclusion on the World Heritage List;

FURTHER AWARE of the proposed construction of the Nam Choan Dam on the Kwai Yai River, which could severely disrupt the ecology of the area;

RECOGNIZING:
   a. Thailand's need to achieve energy self-sufficiency;
   b. The efforts of the Thai Government to bring an end to forest destruction and maintain 40 per cent of Thailand's land area under forest cover;
   c. The progress that has been made in establishing a comprehensive system of protected areas;
   d. That large dams have often failed to achieve the benefits used to justify their construction and have sometimes resulted in serious environmental costs;

RECALLING the concern expressed elsewhere by this General Assembly with regard to the impacts of development assistance on genetic and other natural resources, and that these impacts can be beneficial or adverse depending on how well conservation and development are integrated;
17.58 THE ARCTIC INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE RESERVE, CANADA AND USA

AWARE that the Governments of Canada and the United States of America have signed a bilateral agreement to protect the Porcupine River caribou herd which migrates regularly between Alaska in the United States and the Yukon and Northwest Territories in Canada;

REALIZING the great value of these caribou to native peoples in meeting their essential nutritional and cultural needs;

RECOGNIZING that this huge free-roaming herd is a unique, irreplaceable resource of international significance;

RECOGNIZING also that the range of the herd, as defined geographically in the bilateral agreement, constitutes a spectacular wilderness ecosystem, unique in the Arctic; one that supports biological and cultural diversity as well as remarkable scenery and provides vital habitat for many internationally important species of migratory birds and marine mammals;

RECOGNIZING also the US Department of the Interior is proposing to open the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas exploration and development; and that it is acknowledged in the Final Environmental Impact Statement that the proposed development will dramatically decrease the vital calving habitat necessary for the conservation of the Porcupine caribou herd, and irrevocably alter the wilderness character of the region (polar bear, musk oxen, and migratory birds are also threatened by the proposed development);

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. URGES the Congress of the United States to formally designate the entire coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as wilderness.

2. URGES the Governments of Canada and the United States to jointly establish an Arctic International Wildlife Refuge through linkage of the Northern Yukon National Park and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

17.59 STIKINE INTERNATIONAL PARK, CANADA AND USA

RECOGNIZING that the Stikine River in British Columbia, Canada and in Alaska, USA, is one of the last remaining wilderness rivers of international importance, containing a pristine coastal estuary, majestic mountains and glaciers, a grand canyon, extensive alpine headwaters, and an exceptional diversity of fish and wildlife;

NOTING that the Government of British Columbia has taken some steps to protect the natural heritage values of the Stikine system;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

URGES the Governments of Canada, the United States, Alaska and British Columbia to establish a Stikine International Park that will include the entire main stem of the Stikine River.
17.60 CARAJAS PIG IRON PLANTS, BRAZIL

AWARE that the World Bank in the past has provided US$304 million and the European Community US$600 million in loans to the Companhia Vale do Rio Doce (CVRD), Brazil, a government-controlled mining company, to construct the Carajas iron ore mine and an 890 kilometre railroad to transport the ore from Carajas to Ponta de Madeira, and that some of this ore is now scheduled to be delivered to pig iron smelters that will be located along the path of the railroad but outside the area of the World Bank and European Community project;

CONCERNED that a large area of pristine Brazilian Amazon tropical forest around the mine and railroad may be converted into charcoal to fire these smelters over a period of just three years and that the traditional livelihoods of more than 10,000 Amazonian Indians in the region is immediately threatened;

CONCERNED FURTHER that 17 charcoal-fired smelters approved by the Brazilian Government, and an additional 20 proposed pig iron projects, will severely undermine established World Bank and Brazilian loan contract provisions to protect the environment and indigenous peoples;

NOTING that, according to some feasibility studies, the smelters along the railroad will only be financially viable if pristine forest is cut to make charcoal, but not if plantation forests are used;

NOTING further that Indians living in 23 reserves in the area around the World Bank project are particularly vulnerable to the effects of these iron smelters, since their forest resources are likely to be quickly destroyed for charcoal production by migrants and squatters desperate for income;

RECOGNIZING that the environmental effects of the smelters, their economic viability, and their location have been the subject of vigorous protest from the Brazilian scientific community;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. CALLS UPON the Brazilian Government to prevent the deforestation of the pristine forest of the eastern Amazon, and to seek alternatives that will promote the long-term, sustainable development of natural resources and the environment throughout the region and simultaneously ensure the protection of the lifestyles, livelihood, and property rights of the indigenous peoples in the region.

2. CALLS UPON the World Bank to use its good offices to continue to intervene more vigorously to halt all industrial projects using charcoal derived from pristine forests; with reference specifically to those projects not financed by the World Bank, to assist the Brazilian authorities in evaluating alternative development options that will not cause massive deforestation and loss of outstanding biological diversity; and to ensure that the CVRD complies with its contractual obligations to protect both the natural resources and indigenous populations in the region.

3. CALLS UPON the European Community to use its influence in favour of protecting the forests and indigenous peoples of the Amazon and not to finance any iron ore projects that do not ensure the protection of those forests and peoples.

17.61 PROTECTION OF JUAN FERNANDEZ NATIONAL PARK AND BIOSPHERE RESERVE, CHILE

RECALLING that a central objective of the World Conservation Strategy is to protect a world-wide network of representative ecosystems as an aspect of maintaining biological diversity on Earth;

FURTHER RECALLING that the protection of genetic resources is an international responsibility;

CONSIDERING FURTHER that biosphere reserves play an increasingly important role in conserving representative ecosystems and their biological diversity;

CONSIDERING that the Juan Fernandez Archipelago, 650 km west of the Chilean coast, has a rich endemic flora and fauna;

NOTING that this ecosystem has been considered by the scientific community to be highly fragile due to its physiographic and climatic conditions;

RECOGNIZING that based on these considerations, the Chilean Government designed in 1935 more than 95 per cent of these islands as a national park, and in 1977, following nomination by that Government, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) declared it a Biosphere Reserve;

RECALLING that IUCN’s Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas, in 1984, included the Juan Fernandez Archipelago National Park in the Register of Threatened Protected Areas of the World, pointing out as threats “introduced plants and animals and erosion caused by livestock grazing”;

AWARE that recently the Chilean Government announced its intention to convert these islands into an off-shore banking and tourist centre, constructing roads, banks, hotels and casinos;

FURTHER AWARE that the public office in charge of national parks was not included in the commission designated to prepare the project; and that the project (which could be implemented shortly) has not been subject to an environmental impact study;

NOTING that the implementation of this project, due to its size, could seriously limit the valuable scientific research that has been conducted in the National Park for the last few years;

RECALLING that in the last triennium the IUCN network and specialized Commissions have developed a growing concern about island issues, establishing a Task Force on Island Conservation, a working group on Oceanic Islands and, in collaboration with the International Council for Bird Preservation, an Oceanic Island Data Base at the Conservation Monitoring Centre;

NOTING FINALLY that the opinion of the world conservation community is considered in Chile a valuable instrument and an important support of local efforts to protect the environment and conserve nature;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. CALLS UPON the Chilean Government to refrain from developing the off-shore banking and tourist centre project in the Juan Fernandez Archipelago until the results of a complete environmental impact assessment — which should be carried out by the National Scientific Community in cooperation with appropriate international conservation entities — are taken into consideration.

2. URGES the Chilean Government, local population and the Chilean conservation community to assure that the development of the Juan Fernandez Archipelago is rational, sustainable and compatible with the conservation of the natural resources of the Juan Fernandez Islands.

3. INVITES all IUCN members to express to the Chilean Government their concern about the future of this threatened protected area and to monitor closely the development plan of this area.

17.62 CONSERVATION OF THE ALPS

RECALLING the long-standing concern of IUCN for Alpine conservation, which resulted in 1952 in the creation by IUCN of the International Commission for the Protection of Alpine Regions (CIPRA), and which led to the 1974 Trento International Symposium and the ensuing Action Plan for the Future of the Alps;

AWARE however that this Action Plan was not adequately implemented by the Alpine States and concerned bodies;

ALARMED by the conclusion of the recent IUCN workshop on the subject (Chambery, France, December 1987) that, due to a combination of severe problems, the Alps have now become the most threatened mountain system in the world;

WELCOMING the development of mountain conservation activities and of an Alpine Convention within the IUCN Programme for the triennium 1988-1990;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:
URGES all Alpine States and concerned organizations to ensure:

a. Better implementation of existing legislation;

b. The development of new legislation more appropriate to the needs of the Alps;

c. The development and improvement of communication systems;

d. Greater coordination of research, and action plans;

e. Better communication of scientific knowledge aimed at decision-makers and users of the Alps;

f. The strict control of recreational activities harmful to the special characteristics of the Alpine region;

g. That proper account is taken of the cultural, political and socio-economic interests of local people;

h. More effective international cooperation, for example through the establishment and support of an International Centre for the Alpine Environment and of a joint Alpine Conservation Strategy.

17.63 INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE OF SCOTTISH PEATLANDS, UNITED KINGDOM

AWARE of the international importance of the peatlands of Caithness and Sutherland, and in particular the peatlands of the flow country of northern Scotland, as an important part of an area identified in the World Conservation Strategy as a priority biogeographic province for the establishment of protected areas;

AWARE that blanket bog is an extremely rare global habitat type, restricted to a few areas where cool oceanic conditions prevail;

AWARE that the blanket bogs of Caithness and Sutherland, Scotland, form the largest remaining example of this habitat type in the world;

INFORMED THAT “The Conservation and Development Programme for the United Kingdom: A Response to the World Conservation Strategy” states that the results of upland bird surveys show that “forestry operations should be planned with great care”;

NOTING that peatland ecologists from nine countries at a conference of the International Mire Conservation Group (held in September 1986) expressed their dismay at the extent to which afforestation was found to be destroying this internationally important habitat, and viewed the speed of destruction with particular alarm;

NOTING the reports produced by the Nature Conservancy Council, the United Kingdom Government’s own advisers on nature conservation, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, and the Scottish Wildlife Trust, documenting the loss of these blanket bogs to commercial forestry;

RECALLING the commitment of all Parties to the Ramsar Convention including the United Kingdom to promote wise use of wetlands and in particular wetlands of international importance;

AWARE of the United Kingdom Government’s recent decision to protect a very substantial area of the Caithness and Sutherland peatlands, but at the same time to allow new afforestation of about 40,000 ha;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. CONGRATULATES the Government of the United Kingdom on its recognition that much of Caithness and Sutherland is of national and international importance for conservation and that a very substantial area (amounting to approximately half of the presently unafforested area of peatlands in these counties) is to be safeguarded.

2. CALLS ON the Government of the United Kingdom to exercise extreme caution in the authorization of any further planting proposals within the Caithness and Sutherland peatlands until it is clear where such planting may take place without detriment to nature conservation.

3. CALLS ON the Government of the United Kingdom to ensure that the 40,000 ha of land that is envisaged may be afforested falls outside important areas for nature conservation within the Caithness and Sutherland peatlands.

4. CALLS ON the Government of the United Kingdom to support, in areas not protected or afforested, farming practices that are compatible with conservation interests.

5. CALLS ON the Government of the United Kingdom to designate appropriate areas within the Caithness and Sutherland peatlands as a Ramsar site or sites and to consider nominating them for listing under the World Heritage Convention.

17.64 SHIRAHO REEF, JAPAN

REMEMBERING that the maintenance of essential ecological processes and life support systems, the preservation of biological diversity, and the sustainable utilization of species and ecosystems form the cornerstone of IUCN’s conservation policy;

RECOGNIZING that the biological diversity of coral reefs is equaled only by that of tropical moist forests, and that coral reefs are one of the most biologically productive ecosystems in the world;

CONCERNED that devastating outbreaks of Crown-of-Thorns Starfish (Acanthaster planci), terrestrial run-off and sedimentation, pollution, coastal development and other effects of human development have resulted in the serious decline and loss of coral reefs throughout the Nansei Shoto (Ryukyu Archipelago) of Japan, including areas designated as protected marine reserves;

AWARE that the Shiraho Reef, Ishigaki Island, Okinawa Prefecture remains a particularly outstanding example of a rich coral reef community with many natural features of scientific importance, including some of the largest and very old stands of Blue Coral (Heliopora coerulea) ever identified in the northern hemisphere;

FURTHER AWARE that the Shiraho Reef provides unique cultural, social, economic, and spiritual benefits to the local community, which has maintained a harmonious relationship with the reef fully compatible with the principles of sustainable utilization;

FURTHER AWARE that Shiraho Reef’s ecosystem, when healthy, functions as a reproductive reservoir, dispersing pelagic eggs and lar-vae of fishes, corals and other life to neighbouring reefs and fisheries;

CONCERNED that a proposal to construct a jet airport facility at and on the Shiraho Reef site will result in irreversible damage to the ecological processes and the biological diversity of the reef;

FURTHER CONCERNED that continued soil erosion in the Todoroki River watershed will degrade and stress the biological communities of the Shiraho Reef;

NOTING that the IUCN’s Species Survival Commission (SSC) is currently undertaking an international scientific assessment of Shiraho Reef;

FURTHER NOTING that Ishigaki Island already has an airport;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San José, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. EXPRESSES its appreciation to the Government of Japan for its cooperation with the IUCN research team during field surveys of Shiraho Reef in 1987;

2. STRONGLY URGES the Government of Japan to take immediate steps to reconsider the construction of an airport facility at the Shiraho Reef site in view of the serious environmental consequences for the reef of such an activity.

3. FURTHER REQUESTS the Government of Japan to assign Shiraho Reef the strongest degree of protection possible under Japanese domestic law in order to ensure its future viability as a dynamic reef ecosystem.

4. RESPECTFULLY SUGGESTS that the Government of Japan implements a research programme at Shiraho Reef with studies of its biota, promotes research and management of coral reef ecosystems, monitors the general status of coral reefs in Japan, and addresses the causes of coral reef destruction and degradation.
Founded in 1948, IUCN is the world’s largest, most representative alliance of conservation agencies and interest groups. Its more than 500 members include sovereign states, governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations with national and international scope and influence. Through union, IUCN’s members seek to tackle common challenges in environmental and natural resource conservation, using the World Conservation Strategy (published 1980) as an agreed basis for setting priorities for project fieldwork and other forms of action.

The Union’s Secretariat (including its three specialist Centres), with the support of more than 3000 experts who donate their time to the six IUCN Commissions, provides advice, information, coordination and other practical services for an agreed programme of applied conservation which is funded and enacted by the IUCN network itself and by collaborating and fund-operating institutions such as the multilateral and bilateral development aid agencies, regional treaty organizations, UN agencies and the World Wide Fund for Nature.

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