## 7. Deserts of the Middle East

Recognizing the outstanding value for science, conservation and tourism of the deserts and semi-deserts of the Middle East, and the vulnerability of these areas to modern technology, transport and development the 9th General Assembly of IUCN meeting in Lucerne in June 1966

notes with satisfaction the interest displayed in conservation by the Governments concerned and

**requests** them to bring into effective operation as quickly as possible large national parks and equivalent protected natural areas in their deserts and semi-deserts, and in the unique area of the Rift Valley between the Gulf of Aqaba and the mountains of Lebanon and

**welcomes** other efforts, for instance through the International Biological Programme, to assist in promoting developments along these lines.