17. Conservation of endangered plant species in botanical and other gardens

Whereas the number of endangered plant species is increasing rapidly throughout the world, and

whereas little attention has been paid to their conservation even in botanical gardens, and

whereas one of the important functions of botanical and other gardens should be the conservation by cultivation of endangered plant species,

the 10th General Assembly of IUCN meeting at New Delhi in November 1969

recommends the preservation of endangered species in their natural habitats and additionally that botanical gardens, through their own and other national and international organizations take steps to perpetuate such plants through cultivation without causing damage to the natural population and with careful avoidance of change in the genotype through hybridization;

and further recommends that governments and other organizations establish additional gardens, especially in the tropics and subtropics, capable of undertaking this task.