

3. Convention on the Conservation of Wetlands

Recalling the successful initiative of the Government of Iran in securing agreement of governments to the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance considered by the International Conference on Wetlands held at Ramsar in January 1971, with the active participation of IUCN;

Being informed that the resulting convention has now been opened for signature at UNESCO headquarters in Paris;

The 11th General Assembly of IUCN meeting at Banff, Canada, in September 1972:

Calls on governments represented at Ramsar to sign and ratify the convention as soon as possible;

Urges all other governments to consider early adherence to the convention;

And draws attention to the need for including within the scope of the convention suitable areas of high-quality *Sphagnum* peatlands, as being a very widespread type of wetland under threat of drainage, with possible adverse ecological effects and doubtful economic justification.