

### 13. New Hebrides Kaori Forest

**Considering** that the Kaori, *Agathis obtusa*, one of the rare forest species of *Agathis*, is strictly endemic to the New Hebrides and that most significant occurrences are in the island of Erromango;

**Considering** that the *Agathis* forests of Erromango have other special botanical characteristics and form an ecosystem of unique scientific interest;

**Believing** that the Kaori is one of the most important natural resources of the New Hebrides and that its exploitation should therefore be controlled and managed on a sustained yield basis;

**Being aware** that current exploitation of the *Agathis* forests of Erromango is destructive and out of keeping with modern forestry practice, giving no chance of regeneration and encouraging erosion;

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

**Urges** the governments of France and the United Kingdom in view of their responsibility for the New Hebrides condominium, to establish a strict Forest Reserve of about 2500 hectares in the valley of the Lampanouri river and its tributary immediately to the west, where it could provide for the preservation of genetic stocks, and serve as a standard to enable the degraded forest to be restored to its original scientific and economic value.