

1. Conservation for development

RECOGNIZING that the development activities of bilateral and multilateral aid agencies in developing nations, and of governments in developed nations, exert an enormous influence on the face of the earth;

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that these activities all too often do not take ecological and other conservation factors into account, with resultant losses of productive renewable natural resources and often ecological degradation, which has long-term negative impacts on human welfare;

NOTING that the objectives of the World Conservation Strategy cannot be achieved unless these development activities can be designed and implemented to assure that ecological and other conservation values become an integral part of the development activities; but that, at the same time, the billions of dollars and immense amounts of other resources spent annually on development represent a vast source of resources for the implementation of the World Conservation Strategy;

NOTING FURTHER that there is growing recognition that ecological and other conservation values are not only compatible with most development objectives, but are essential to assure their long-term success; and that consequently governments and development agencies are beginning to seek specialized advice and assistance in conservation;

RECOGNIZING that IUCN, with its worldwide network of experts, its strong Secretariat, and increasingly vigorous Commissions, is in a unique position to provide such advice;

NOTING that IUCN has received several proposals for programmes that would involve IUCN in the provision of a conservation dimension in the development process, among them the proposal for the creation of a "Conservation for Development" programme;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 14th Session, Ashkhabad, USSR, 26 September -5 October 1978:

CALLS UPON the multilateral and bilateral aid agencies and other international organizations concerned to cooperate in the implementation of the World Conservation Strategy through the assistance given to developing countries; and

INVITES the multilateral and bilateral aid agencies and other international organizations concerned to cooperate with IUCN in developing institutional and financial links, such as those envisaged in the proposed "Conservation for Development" programme, which would strengthen IUCN's capacity to respond to the requests of developing countries for conservation advice.