

## **2. Ecological knowledge and conservation**

*BEING AWARE* that systematic ecological knowledge is essential in providing a sound basis for integrated land-use policy and sea exploitation on which conservation and environmental management heavily depend;

*WELCOMING* the progress in UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB), and the programmes of UNEP and FAO;

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

DRAWS THE ATTENTION of Governments to the need for ecological research as the basis for sound policies for environmental management;

RECOMMENDS that governments and international organizations work closely together to establish an effective network of ecological data banks, which would allow for systematic gathering and retrieval, for use in all development projects, conservation strategies and action programmes;

INVITES UNESCO (MAB-IOC) to consider ways and means of working more closely with IUCN on problems of ecology for conservation, including means by which MAB concepts can be applied to the oceans.

