

5. Eradication of disease-transmitting vectors

RECOGNIZING that the presence of disease-transmitting vectors, especially those of trypanosomiasis and onchocerciasis, has severely restricted man's occupation and use of large areas of Africa, and that those areas are of great value to the peoples of the countries concerned, particularly because of the natural fauna and flora preserved within them;

CONCERNED that proposals for blanket eradication of disease vectors over very large areas of African savanna include national parks and reserves; that operations have already begun to affect the Okavango swamps, Botswana, and the national parks of Upper Volta, Niger and Benin and pose direct threats to the future of these parks;

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

RECOMMENDS to the governments and multilateral and bilateral aid organizations of all countries concerned, that the attempted eradication of disease vectors, such as tsetse flies, should not be carried out in marginal lands, and elsewhere only as part of an integrated development programme, planned in accord with recognized conservation principles in precisely circumscribed areas;

RECOMMENDS further that, where attempts at eradication take place close to protected areas and areas of comparable ecological value, the strictest measures be taken to ensure that the effects do not damage the characteristics of protected areas.