

## **16/7. SUPPORT FOR CONSERVATION IN AFRICA**

NOTING the special difficulty of African States in implementing effective conservation because of rapid population growth, continuing desertification, and the world economic crisis;

DEEPLY ALARMED by the effects of the current drought in the Sahel and Horn of Africa, which reveal the dramatically declining ability of the natural ecosystems of these areas to sustain life of all kinds;

NOTING ALSO that there are in Africa unique species and habitats that should be conserved for the benefit of mankind;

CONCERNED at increasing rates of reduction of most tropical biomes, and also of unique animal species through accelerated rates of industrialization, modern farming, human population growth and settlements;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 16th Session in Madrid, Spain, 5-14 November 1984:

1. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN, to the extent feasible, to increase support for conservation in Africa through the following actions:
  - (a) supporting the implementation of the Victoria Falls Action Plan endorsed by the Regional Working Session of CNPPA in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe in 1983;
  - (b) through CEPLA, actively helping in the follow up of the implementation of the African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources;
  - (c) supporting pilot projects in conservation in areas of special significance, notably arid lands, savannas and tropical rain forests;
  - (d) maintaining support for training protected areas managers and development of a mechanism for local support for protected areas;
  - (e) supporting the formulation and implementation of national conservation strategies and plans;
2. FURTHER REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN to investigate how international efforts might be better concentrated on key representative protected areas and the species and habitats that they contain