

16/10. REGIONAL CONVENTIONS

WHEREAS previous resolutions of the General Assembly of IUCN and resolutions of the Governing Council of UNEP have urged States to become Parties to international conventions and to support and implement international programmes;

NOTING the importance of global conventions but wishing in particular to stress the value of regional conventions such as:

- (a) the Convention on Nature Protection in the Western Hemisphere (Washington, 1940), convened under the auspices of the Organization of American States (OAS); and
- (b) the African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (Algiers, 1968), convened under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity (OAU);

RECALLING that the General Secretariat of the OAS has hosted five technical meetings of regional experts on training and education, marine mammals, migratory species, endangered ecosystems and the legal ramifications of amending the Western Hemisphere Convention;

NOTING ALSO that it is the intention of the OAU to call a meeting of experts from its Member States on amendment of the 1968 Algiers Convention;

NOTING FURTHER the intention of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to adopt an agreement on the conservation of nature and natural resources;

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

1. CONGRATULATES the OAS, OAU and ASEAN on their initiatives;
2. REQUESTS that the State Members of the OAS implement the recommendations formulated in the above mentioned technical meetings;
3. REQUESTS the OAU, in its revision of the African Convention, to incorporate the principles contained in the World Conservation Strategy and establish a secretariat for the administration of the Convention;
4. REQUESTS States that are not yet Party to the African Convention to become so as soon as possible;
5. REQUESTS appropriate Governments to conclude regional conventions and agreements to ensure cooperative action between neighbouring States for the effective conservation and management of the environment and natural resources.