

## **16/11. DEEP SEA MINING AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS OF THE DEEP OCEAN**

RECALLING that the 15th Session of the General Assembly of IUCN in Christchurch, New Zealand, adopted a resolution recommending the establishment of large sanctuaries in ocean areas where deep sea mining is contemplated under the Law of the Sea Convention, and calling upon the Convention's Preparatory Commission to develop and implement the concept pursuant to its responsibilities;

NOTING that the World Congress on National Parks, Bali, Indonesia, in October 1982, similarly recommended the establishment of deep ocean sanctuaries under the Law of the Sea Convention;

NOTING FURTHER that IUCN published a *Marine Protected Areas* source book in the latter half of 1984 which addresses the concept of protected areas in the open seas (Chapter 7);

RECOGNIZING that the Law of the Sea Convention was opened for signature in December 1982, that it has been signed by more than 135 nations, and that all of those nations are members of the Preparatory Commission;

AWARE that the Preparatory Commission has held four sessions, beginning in the spring of 1983, that a Special Commission has been established to prepare draft rules, regulations and procedures for deep sea mining exploration and exploitation, and that a General Committee is expected to issue pioneer investor certificates of registration in 1985 that will allow nations to engage in exploratory deep sea mining activities;

ALSO AWARE that the Preparatory Commission's Special Commission, beginning at its next session in 1985, is expected to prepare draft rules, regulations and procedures concerning environmental measures that are needed in relation to deep sea mining activities;

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

1. RESOLVES that IUCN should make every effort to participate as an observer in the 1985 sessions of the Preparatory Commission to assist in the preparation of draft rules, regulations and procedures that adequately reflect the concept of protected areas and other needed environmental measures; and

RECOMMENDS that the Preparatory Commission adopt at the earliest opportunity draft rules, regulations and procedures which adequately reflect the concept of protected areas and other appropriate environmental measures.

