

16/22. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF TRADE AND AID ON DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

AWARE of the acceptance in principle by several governments in developed countries of the World Conservation Strategy (WCS);

RECOGNIZING the particular importance of the WCS for developing countries, most of which are located in fragile tropical environments;

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

1. RECOMMENDS that donor Governments, in the operation of their own development assistance programmes and through the guidance they give to multi-lateral programmes, attach significantly more attention to the priorities contained in the WCS, and in particular:
 - (a) take full account of the environmental implications of development projects;
 - (b) promote projects according to the goals of the WCS; and
 - (c) take account of the needs of local communities in all these projects;
2. RECOMMENDS AS WELL that Governments of industrialized countries review the impact of their trading policies on the conservation of natural resources in developing countries, with a view to adjusting those policies so as to help achieve the objectives of the World Conservation Strategy;
3. FURTHER RECOMMENDS that IUCN Members in industrialised countries, in particular NGOs, monitor the effects on conservation of trade and aid policies and practices, and use their influence to secure changes in these where they are shown to be environmentally damaging or are not based on a sustainable approach to the management of natural resources;
4. FINALLY RECOMMENDS that IUCN Members in developing countries should keep under review the possible environmental consequences of aid and trade from industrialized countries, and alert the IUCN membership for appropriate action.