

17.32 DEVELOPMENT AID AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMMES

CONSIDERING THAT:

- a. As a result of the economic crises faced by developing countries and indigenous populations within developed countries, it is very difficult for them to invest in, and give priority to, the conservation and development of natural resources;
- b. Various international funding agencies seek to promote development by granting loans to governments;
- c. The World Bank and other agencies seek to develop large-scale programmes for the conservation of areas of international ecological importance;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San Jose, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. RECOMMENDS that:

- a. Developing countries and indigenous populations within developed countries recognize the actual and potential values of renewable natural resources as a basis for their own sustainable socio-economic development; and, when seeking aid and allocating resources, accord a higher priority to these values;
- b. Donor countries and aid agencies give a high priority in their aid programmes to projects submitted to them that reflect an appreciation of the importance of the conservation of natural resources.

2. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN, in collaboration with other international organizations such as the World Bank, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme and multilateral and bilateral aid agencies, to promote a coordinated approach to funding of conservation projects, including the establishment of protected areas.

