

17.33 ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

RECOGNIZING that environmental education enables people to make well-considered decisions in situations in which the environment is involved;

NOTING that environmental education assures that environmental problems are seen in the long term, in local and global perspectives, and in their economic, social, cultural and political contexts;

AWARE that, since the publication of the World Conservation Strategy and the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, it has become clear that without education these documents cannot be implemented;

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

1. URGES all members of IUCN to undertake educational programmes to motivate parliamentarians and legislators to support environmental conservation and sustainable development.
2. RECOMMENDS governments to urge nongovernmental organizations in the field of environmental education to apply for IUCN membership.
3. URGES national governments to pay due attention to the full development of environmental education when defining their policies on education and environmental conservation.
4. CALLS upon the Director General of IUCN, in consultation with IUCN's Commission on Education and Training and within the resources available, to open deliberations with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Society for Environmental Education and other international bodies:
 - a. On facilitating:
 - the flow of research results and other information concerning environmental education;
 - the international exchange of staff, students and educational material;
 - b. On providing data on existing training facilities for environmental educators, and promoting the establishment of new facilities, especially in developing countries.