

17.62 CONSERVATION OF THE ALPS

RECOGNIZING the long-standing concern of IUCN for Alpine conservation, which resulted in 1952 in the creation by IUCN of the International Commission for the Protection of Alpine Regions (CIPRA), and which led to the 1974 Trento International Symposium and the ensuing Action Plan for the Future of the Alps;

AWARE however that this Action Plan was not adequately implemented by the Alpine States and concerned bodies;

ALARMED by the conclusion of the recent IUCN workshop on the subject (Chambery, France, December 1987) that, due to a combination of severe problems, the Alps have now become the most threatened mountain system in the world;

WELCOMING the development of mountain conservation activities and of an Alpine Convention within the IUCN Programme for the triennium 1988-1990;

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

URGES all Alpine States and concerned organizations to ensure:

- a. Better implementation of existing legislation;
- b. The development of new legislation more appropriate to the needs of the Alps;
- c. The development and improvement of communication systems;
- d. Greater coordination of research, and action plans;
- e. Better communication of scientific knowledge aimed at decision-makers and users of the Alps;
- f. The strict control of recreational activities harmful to the special characteristics of the Alpine region;
- g. That proper account is taken of the cultural, political and socio-economic interests of local people;
- h. More effective international cooperation, for example through the establishment and support of an International Centre for the Alpine Environment and of a joint Alpine Conservation Strategy.