

17.8 IUCN COOPERATION WITH UNEP

WELCOMING Decision No. 14/8 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), entitled "Cooperation with Nongovernmental Organizations", adopted at its 14th Session in June 1987, which reaffirms the importance of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in promoting popular participation in sustainable development, as sources of information and knowledge on the ecological and cultural conditions for sustainable development, and as transmitters of that information and knowledge to citizens, industry, governments and development assistance agencies;

NOTING that in Decision No. 14/8, the UNEP Executive Director is asked to continue to work with IUCN in fields of mutual interest, which have included legal instruments to address environmental problems, marine pollution and coastal management programmes, conservation of biological diversity and natural habitats, and enhancement of the role of environmental NGOs in implementing UNEP's Programme;

RECOGNIZING IUCN's interest in developing a grassroots strategy to carry out the relevant recommendations of the World Commission on Environment and Development, and its partnership with UNEP in developing the World Conservation Strategy and the forthcoming companion volume;

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

1. AFFIRMS its resolve to greatly improve its coordination and cooperation with UNEP.
2. Towards this end, REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN to:
 - a. Actively seek opportunities for cooperation and coordination between IUCN Staff, Commissions, Centres and Members, and UNEP, particularly in the areas of environmental law, the Regional Seas Programme, UNEP's efforts to enhance national infrastructures, and the implementation of the Cairo Programme for African Cooperation drawn up by the Environmental Ministers of Africa;
 - b. Work with UNEP to implement Decision No. 14/8 of the 14th Session of the UNEP Governing Council;
 - c. Continue to work closely with UNEP and the other collaborators in the preparation of the companion volume to the World Conservation Strategy.