

18.50 Creation of the Inter-American Nature Conservation System

CONSIDERING that the Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere (Western Hemisphere Convention) will be 50 years old in 1990;

RECOGNIZING that the instrument mentioned above was the forerunner to the European Convention on the Conservation of Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1982 Bern Convention), the ASEAN Agreement on the Conservation of Nature and its Natural Resources (1985 Kuala Lumpur Agreement) and the African Convention on Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (1968 Algiers Convention);

AWARE that since 1940 profound changes have occurred both in the human perception of the environment and in the quantity and quality of the dangers to which the environment is exposed;

CONCERNED that, in view of the above, traditional political and domestic as well as international structures should be assessed with a view to envisaging new forms of institutional organization which can channel the many possible relations between humanity and nature;

CONVINCED that it would be useful, on an American level, to have a flexible institutional framework, which would provide a means of concentrating the management of all environmental problems common to the countries of America, and which could also serve as a link between sub-regional agreements and wherever possible with environmental agreements of a universal nature;

AWARE that a draft Convention for the creation of the Inter-American Nature Conservation System is under consideration by the Organization of American States (OAS), in the light of a proposal prepared by the Inter-American Legal Committee;

The General Assembly of IUCN—The World Conservation Union, at its 18th Session in Perth, Australia, 28 November-5 December 1990:

1. ENDORSES the creation for the American continent of the Inter-American Nature Conservation System within the institutional framework of the OAS;
2. URGES IUCN and especially its Latin American members to further the implementation of the proposed system.

