

## **18.62 Mangroves in Bintuni Bay, Irian Jaya, Indonesia**

1. CONGRATULATES the Indonesian Government on its recognition of the importance of the internationally significant mangrove ecosystem at Bintuni Bay as shown by:
  - a. its plans to establish a large Strict Nature Reserve over part of the area;
  - b. its intention to carry out Environmental Impact Assessment of existing forestry industry operations at Bintuni Bay;
  - c. its enforcement of forestry regulations against the company logging at Bintuni Bay;
2. URGES the Indonesian Government to expedite the declaration of the Strict Nature Reserve at Bintuni Bay in consultation with indigenous peoples;
3. URGES the Indonesian Government to investigate the eligibility of the area for listing under the Ramsar Convention while becoming a party to that Convention, and to consider the area for listing under the World Heritage Convention;
4. EXPRESSES concern that any large-scale logging operation should be allowed to continue in this internationally significant area;
5. FURTHER URGES the companies concerned and their shareholders to fully cooperate in, and facilitate, all studies and protection measures required to maintain the Bintuni Bay ecosystems;
6. URGES the Indonesian Government to ensure that the indigenous people are involved in all management and development programmes in the area.

RECOGNIZING that the Bintuni Bay mangrove forest represents one of South-east Asia's largest mangrove ecosystems, providing habitat for 45 protected terrestrial animal species and six endemic fish species and preserving a large area of breeding habitat of the Estuarine Crocodile (*Crocodylus porosus*);

AWARE that the Indonesian Government has previously granted a logging concession over a part of this area prior to the introduction of the Current Indonesian Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations;

AWARE ALSO that the Indonesian Government has temporarily banned the logging operations on the concession after violations of the forestry regulations by the company concerned and that the Indonesian Government, in line with its policy of implementing EIA on existing activities, is preparing EIA guidelines for the timber industry operations at Bintuni Bay;

RECOGNIZING the progress by the Indonesian Government towards the declaration of a Strict Nature Reserve over a substantial area of the Bintuni Bay mangroves;

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