

18.65 Australian Resource Security Legislation

NOTING that moves by the Australian Government to develop "resource security" legislation have only recently been revealed;

BELIEVING that such legislation is designed to give to exploitative industries long-term rights of access, control and use of resources and areas which have yet to be fully evaluated with respect to their natural and cultural values;

CONVINCED that such pre-emption of future decision-making options by this and future generations is inconsistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development;

AWARE that much work has yet to be done to establish a comprehensive system of parks and reserves and to maintain biodiversity in Australia;

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

CALLS UPON the Government of Australia to abandon moves to develop "resource security" legislation.

Note: This recommendation was adopted by consensus. The Australian State member delegation indicated that had there been a vote the delegation would have abstained, since the matter was currently under consideration by the Government.