

- Environmental Impact Assessment has been undertaken;
- (c) carefully planned mitigatory measures, in consultation with local communities, are made an integral part of such projects;

19.29 Dam Construction, Irrigation and Water Diversions

NOTING that there are proposals annually to build more than 100 large dams around the globe for the purposes of energy generation, irrigation, flood control and water supply;

CONCERNED that many large dams previously constructed have had a major adverse impact on the environment, such as the destruction of riverine ecosystems, including significant areas of tropical rainforests, the eradication or imperilling of rare species of animals and plants, and a reduction in riverine and fish harvests;

RECOGNIZING that many dams and their associated projects have displaced millions of people in river-dependent communities, flooded large areas of prime agricultural land, and drowned valuable archeological and cultural artefacts;

AWARE that many such projects have failed to meet the objectives for which they were designed owing to poor catchment management, bad design or inadequate studies;

CONSCIOUS of the announcement by the Government of Pakistan of its decision to initiate work on the Ghazi Barotha Hydro Power Project and recognizing the problems associated with the earlier Tarbela Dam Project;

CONVINCED that the proliferation of large dams planned over the next decade and beyond pose a significant threat to the world's biological diversity and indigenous communities and do not meet most criteria for sustainable development;

The General Assembly of IUCN - The World Conservation Union, at its 19th Session in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 17-26 January 1994:

1. CALLS UPON all governments and international multilateral and bilateral funding bodies not to fund any further large dam projects until and unless:
 - (a) all appropriate alternatives to such projects have been adequately investigated for their environmental, social, economic and cumulative impacts;
 - (b) in the case of energy projects, in addition to the above:
 - (i) the relevant government or energy authority has developed and implemented a comprehensive strategy of energy conservation, efficiency and management;
 - (ii) all appropriate options for decentralized or small-scale energy development have been investigated;
 - (iii) a comprehensive and public

trust funds administered by independent authorities, including representatives of local communities, are set up for the planning and implementation of mitigatory measures.

