19.32 Nuclear Weapons and Trade

RECALLING UN General Assembly Resolution 47/47 on a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty and welcoming the agreement by many nations to begin negotiations of such a treaty;

NOTING with alarm the continued testing of nuclear weapons and contamination of the biosphere with radioactivity from these tests;

WELCOMING the decision by the Russian Federation and the United States of America to impose a moratorium on the testing of nuclear weapons;

CONGRATULATING France on the suspension of its testing of nuclear weapons;

ALARMED at the international trade in plutonium and spent nuclear fuel since this trade adds to the potential for further nuclear weapons proliferation;

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

- 1. URGES all States to adopt a moratorium on nuclear weapons testing as a matter of urgency;
- 2. CALLS UPON all States to complete negotiations of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty;
- 3. INVITES States Members of the UN Conference on Disarmament to make every effort through the Conference to take all steps for completion of negotiations of a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty and to urge all States to refrain from the further development of any new nuclear weapons;
- 4. URGES all States, particularly those nuclear weapon States which have not yet done so, to sign and ratify the Convention on the Ban of Nuclear Weapons Tests in the Atmosphere, Outer Space, and Underwater (Moscow 1963);
- 5. ENCOURAGES State Members of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to work through the IAEA to strengthen IAEA safeguards, including inspections, to ensure that nuclear facilities capable of producing weapons grade fissionable materials are not diverted from peaceful uses to weapons use, and that commercial trade in plutonium and spent nuclear fuels is not diverted to weapons use;
- 6. URGES States Members of the IAEA to renegotiate its treaty purposes so that the IAEA will refrain from encouraging the peaceful uses of nuclear materials for electrical energy production.
- 7. URGES all States to cease the trade in plutonium.

Note. This Recommendation was adopted by a show of hands. The delegations of the State members Canada, France, United Kingdom and United States stated that although this was a matter of extreme importance, it was being handled in the UN General Assembly and was not within the mandate of IUCN.