

19.39 Agricultural Land

AWARE that tens of thousands of hectares of agricultural land in North America, Europe and elsewhere have been (or are about to be) withdrawn from farming because they are subject to erosion, or in order to reduce productive over-capacity;

NOTING that in certain conditions such land can make a substantial contribution to the conservation of wildlife and its habitats;

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

URGES governments which adopt measures to take land out of intensive production to do so in ways which best help wildlife, and in particular:

- (a) to target land of highest conservation value;
- (b) to focus on sites adjacent to, or in corridors between, protected areas;
- (c) to seek to maintain such areas in conservation management for substantial periods, for example 20 years or more;
- (d) to take other complementary measures to conserve biological diversity within the farmed landscape.