

## 19.75 Tatshenshini-Alsek River System, Canada and USA

RECALLING the Recommendation 18.46 of the 18th Session of the General Assembly, drawing international attention to the magnificence and the unique wilderness character of the Tatshenshini-Alsek watershed;

RECALLING that this Recommendation also noted the great danger of degradation and destruction to the pristine wilderness and wildlife values of this outstanding portion of the earth from a huge open-pit mine with accompanying corridors for transmitting the mineral ore;

RECOGNIZING that the Premier of British Columbia has just established a Class I Wilderness Park for the entire one million hectares of the Tatshenshini-Alsek watershed in British Columbia;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the Government of Canada, with the agreement of the Province of British Columbia, has nominated the Tatshenshini and Alsek rivers as a World Heritage Site;

AWARE that, together with the existing wilderness of the St Elias-Wrangell National Park and Preserve and Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve in Alaska, and the Kluane National Park in Canada, this will be the largest international wilderness area in the world;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the Government of British Columbia and the Champagne-Aishek First Nations have indicated their intention to negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding regarding their cooperation in the future management of this area;

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

CONGRATULATES the Government of British Columbia, and particularly Premier Michael Harcourt, on his vision in establishing this extraordinary Class I Wilderness Park and looks forward with pleasure to the consideration by the World Heritage Committee of the Tatshenshini-Alsek as a possible World Heritage Site.