

## 19.90 Restoration of Lake Pedder, Tasmania, Australia

RECOGNIZING that the flooding of Lake Pedder to produce hydro-electric power was an environmental disaster which severely affected the integrity of the Tasmanian World Heritage Site;

AWARE that some endemic species which were lost at the time of inundation will never be recovered;

RECOGNIZING that the restoration of Lake Pedder would be a significant step towards improving both the integrity and ease of management of the Tasmanian World Heritage Site;

RECOGNIZING the need to restore degraded wilderness areas where feasible;

AWARE that the restoration of Lake Pedder would be a symbol to the world of a determination to redress some of the environmental mistakes of the past;

AWARE that the predicted power demand from the Tasmanian grid has not eventuated;

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

1. CALLS UPON the Tasmanian State Government and the Commonwealth Government of Australia to investigate the feasibility of:
  - (a) the restoration of the original Lake Pedder, including the most appropriate method of restoring the vegetation around the lake;
  - (b) undertaking a detailed analysis including the environmental, social and economic benefits to flow from a rehabilitation programme;
  - (c) the potential for Australia to capitalize on such benefits and to use the expertise gained from this experience to assist in similar projects elsewhere in the world in future;
  - (d) instigating a comprehensive energy efficiency and power conservation programme to diminish electricity demand and generation in Tasmania;
2. REQUESTS the Director General to make available to the Tasmanian State Government and the Commonwealth Government of Australia relevant technical expertise and advice to achieve the restoration of this magnificent natural wonder.

*Note. This Recommendation was adopted by consensus. The delegations of the State members Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, South Africa, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States, Zaire and Zimbabwe, and the delegation of the Department of Environment and Conservation, Papua New Guinea (a Government Agency member), indicated that had there been a vote, they would have abstained*