

## 1.46 Use of the Concept of Sustainable Development

NOTING the definition of sustainable development agreed at the 1992 'Earth Summit' in Rio de Janeiro;

RECOGNIZING the significant part played by IUCN in initiating and developing the principles embodied in this definition;

RECOGNIZING that the IUCN Mission is "to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable".

EMPHASIZING:

- a) that environmental protection, social development and economic development are inter-dependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development;
- b) that sustainable development can only be realized if it truly incorporates the concepts of rational conservation and use of natural resources, taking into account both present and future generations;

CONCERNED THAT in practice environmental factors are not yet fully incorporated into all projects and programmes which are termed "sustainable development";

The World Conservation Congress at its 1st Session in Montreal, Canada, 14–23 October 1996;

URGES all members of IUCN to:

- a) recall and promote the original significance of the concept of sustainable development;
- b) take all necessary steps not to distort the concept of sustainable development nor to allow it to be distorted from its original meaning;
- c) recommit themselves to promoting full and rigorous incorporation of environmental factors into implementation of the concept of "sustainable development".