

## 1.19 A Global IUCN Temperate, Boreal and Southern Cold Temperate Forests Programme

CONSIDERING that the IUCN forest programme should be comprehensive in scope, and address all types of forests, including temperate, boreal and Southern cold temperate forests;

RECALLING Resolution 19.1 of the 19th Session of the IUCN General Assembly, which states that while IUCN must give particular support to its members in developing countries, it should give attention to resource patterns in the developed world;

NOTING that the role of IUCN is to provide a forum for discussion of conservation issues, including their scientific, educational, economic, social, and political dimensions at global, national and regional levels;

RECOGNIZING the importance of temperate, boreal and Southern cold temperate forests to the long-term well-being of many local populations, national economies and the biosphere;

NOTING that forest issues are receiving increasing attention in temperate, boreal and Southern cold temperate forest regions, and that regional and international initiatives to promote the conservation and sustainable management of these forests are well underway;

NOTING the relevance of temperate, boreal and Southern cold temperate forests to the Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity;

WELCOMING in particular the recent agreements on criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management that have been reached by countries with temperate, boreal and Southern cold temperate forests under the Helsinki Process and the Montreal Process;

AWARE of the scale of the problems affecting the forests of Central and Eastern European nations and Russia in particular;

BELIEVING that a comprehensive IUCN forest programme which includes temperate, boreal and Southern cold temperate forests and integrates forest conservation and forest use within a common framework could be an important part of worldwide action in response to the Forest Principles and Agenda 21 adopted by the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, and that aspects of *Caring for the Earth* are relevant to these forests globally;

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

REQUESTS the Director General, within available resources and in consultation with Commissions and members of IUCN, to pursue actively the development of a temperate, boreal and Southern cold temperate forest programme to promote the conservation and sustainable management of such forests globally, with the aims of:

- a) broadening the scope of IUCN's forest activities to include all important forest types and strengthening the Union's network for cooperation on forest issues;
- b) enhancing the capacity of IUCN members to promote the conservation and sustainable management of temperate, boreal and Southern cold temperate forests.