

2.78 Promoting sustainable fisheries

RECOGNIZING the vital role of fisheries, coastal zones, and the aquatic environment in creating jobs, contributing to food security through significant provision of protein for human and animal nutrition, and in making important contributions to the economy;

ACKNOWLEDGING the key role fisheries products play in combating poor nutrition and malnutrition in coastal and inland regions of developing countries;

CONSIDERING that activities on land have impacts on the marine environment and that occupation of coastal land areas and exploitation of sea and coastal zone resources may lead to conflicting activities;

RECOGNIZING that some fisheries around the world are overexploited;

AWARE of the deterioration of the marine environment and the consequences for fishery resources;

ACKNOWLEDGING the need to implement the *Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries* adopted by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in 1995, other international fisheries agreements, and the responsibility of States for sustainable fisheries management;

NOTING the trend of some industrial fishing fleets to increase their capacities to catch target and secondary species;

RECOGNIZING that States may reserve part of their Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) to develop small-scale fisheries; and

RECOGNIZING that under the FAO *Code of Conduct on International Trade in Fish and Fishery Products*, such trade should not compromise the sustainable development of fisheries and responsible utilization of living aquatic resources;

The World Conservation Congress at its 2nd Session in Amman, Jordan, 4–11 October 2000:

RECOMMENDS that:

- (a) States take appropriate measures to identify critical or endangered zones for the reproduction of marine, brackish, or freshwater species and the creation of protected areas within these zones for biological diversity conservation at the local, national, and global levels;
- (b) States and the international community undertake the research necessary to achieve sustainable fisheries management;
- (c) States, international organizations, and national organizations should cooperate to monitor the use of the marine environment and coastal zones;

- (d) States should take necessary measures to prevent, deter, and eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing;
- (e) subsidies provided by developed countries to their industrial fishing fleets should be eliminated where they have negative impacts for developing countries;
- (f) there be greater transparency involving all the stakeholders, including small-scale fisheries professionals, in the negotiation processes for fishing agreements with other countries;
- (g) there be strengthened cooperation among countries for the improved management of shared fishing resources in order to avoid conflicts;
- (h) development and use of management options and selective fishing gears be promoted to reduce the by-catch of non-target species in a practical and cost-effective manner;
- (i) national and regional plans for emergency intervention be developed to cope with emergency situations that may arise;
- (j) IUCN members mobilize the resources needed for implementation of this Recommendation;
and
- (k) FAO provides technical assistance to developing countries to implement this Recommendation.