

### **REC 3.086 Coordination of sustainable development programmes for energy**

NOTING that energy is essential to economic development, security and self-sufficiency, and that many of the forms of energy currently being used contribute significantly to pollution of the earth's air and water – which is responsible for many thousands of annual deaths and illnesses – and to climate change that threatens the future of the earth's environment and of all of earth's species including humankind;

AWARE that *Agenda 21* of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, 1992) called upon all nations to promote sustainable development utilizing the precautionary principle, that the 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD–9, New York, 2001) called on all nations to promote clean energy policies, that the *Plan of Implementation* adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD, Johannesburg, 2002) contained specific prescriptions for implementing those policies, and noting the outcomes of the International Conference on Renewable Energies (Bonn, 2004);

NOTING that the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD–14/15) in 2006–2007 will be devoted to energy policy issues;

CONCERNED that the absence of recommendations on energy in *Agenda 21*, and the general policy recommendations on energy in the WSSD *Plan of Implementation* do not provide adequate direction for assuring that energy generation, distribution and use will promote sustainable development and be compatible with the conservation of nature and natural resources;

AWARE that the 2<sup>nd</sup> IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) adopted Resolution 2.17 *Climate and energy* recognizing the importance of energy to IUCN's mission and specifically requesting the IUCN Director General “to request IUCN regional offices... to help educate government officials, civil society and the private sector about the *World Energy Assessment* and about cleaner, more affordable available energy options evaluated therein”;

WELCOMING the work that the IUCN Environmental Law Programme, through the IUCN Environmental Law Centre and the Climate and Energy Specialist Group of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law, has done to promote the concept of energy law for sustainable development; and

RECOGNIZING that many of the agencies of the United Nations, including the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Development Programme, and the United Nations Environment Programme, as well as many of the United Nations specialized agencies, international financial institutions and other related organizations such as the International Energy Agency, have programmes for promoting renewable energy and efficient energy generation and use, but that there currently is no authority designated for coordinating and integrating these endeavours;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3<sup>rd</sup> Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17–25 November 2004:

1. RECOMMENDS its State members who are Member States in the General Assembly of the United Nations (UNGA), to take action to implement the recommendations of CSD–9 by authorizing the UN Secretary General to designate a senior coordinator for energy, to promote the integration of the diverse energy programmes in the UN system, to clearly define the roles and responsibilities of each agency and programme, and to encourage the pooling of information and financial support, in order to ensure their greatest possible effectiveness;

2. REQUESTS the IUCN Director General to convey this Recommendation to the State members of IUCN, the President of the UNGA, and to the Chairman of the General Committee of the UNGA,

with the request that they consider including an item on coordinating energy for sustainable development in the UNGA's agenda for 2005; and

3. ENCOURAGES IUCN members to implement the outcomes of the International Conference on Renewable Energies (Bonn, 2004) which call, *inter alia*, for substantive follow-up to the conference in the scope of CSD-14/15, the reporting to the CSD of measurable steps in the implementation of the ambitious actions and commitments in the international action programme and a regular review of progress, as foreseen in the *WSSD Plan of Implementation*.

The Department of State, United States, provided the following statement for the record:

*State and agency members United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolution Process.*