

### **RES 3.023 Providing support for IUCN's Observer Status in the United Nations**

RECALLING Resolutions 1.80 *Relations with the United Nations System* adopted by the 1<sup>st</sup> IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996) and 2.10 *IUCN's relations with the United Nations System* adopted by the 2<sup>nd</sup> IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), regarding IUCN's Observer Status in the General Assembly of the United Nations and the Union's relations with the United Nations' system, respectively;

WELCOMING the report of the IUCN Director General to this Congress in accordance with Resolution 2.10, and the measures taken by the IUCN Director General, with the assistance of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law, and the Environmental Law Programme, to provide staff and volunteer experts for the Union's Observer Mission to the United Nations;

NOTING that the agenda for the General Assembly now has an average of at least 20 agenda items addressing issues related to the environment, nature and natural resource conservation, and their relationship to sustainable development, world order, and socio-economic wellbeing;

RECOGNIZING that IUCN is unique among the organizations that the UN General Assembly has invited to serve as Observers, since it is the only Observer organization providing worldwide expertise on the conservation of nature, biodiversity and natural resources;

AWARE that IUCN provides its State members in the United Nations with careful and succinct submissions of scientific and technical expertise regarding the many environmental issues currently arising in the General Assembly and in the Economic and Social Council, and throughout many of the United Nations' subsidiary bodies and specialized agencies;

CONCERNED that the provision of this expertise will require IUCN to devote further time of its expert volunteers, of its Secretariat, and of its budget, in order for IUCN to meet its responsibilities as an Observer Mission to the United Nations; and

WELCOMING and ENCOURAGING the voluntary contributions of services, expertise or financial support from IUCN's members to assist the IUCN Director General in fulfilling the responsibilities of the Union's Observer Mission, such as the provision of postgraduate student interns from Pace University and Yale University to the Observer Mission at UN headquarters as part of their educational programme;

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

1. INVITES IUCN's State members to avail themselves of IUCN's extensive expert scientific, legal, and technical capabilities in order to facilitate their deliberations on environment and sustainable development in the meetings, conferences and sessions of the United Nations;
2. CALLS upon the IUCN Director General to further identify external funding sources to run the IUCN Observer Mission in New York;
3. REQUESTS the IUCN Director General to provide appropriate support to IUCN's Observer Status, including appropriate support to the IUCN's Observer Mission to the United Nations; and
4. REQUESTS the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law to continue its assistance to the IUCN Director General, through volunteer qualified legal experts, and invites the other IUCN Commissions to assist with the submission of appropriate expert scientific and technical advice.