

RES 3.025 Education and communication in the IUCN Programme

CONSIDERING that IUCN has significantly contributed to the development of environmental education worldwide as a means to inform people and support them to change towards sustainable development;

CONSIDERING that this has advanced the interrelation between the natural and social sciences, as well as contributed a renewed linkage between intellect and creative action for the maintenance of life, not only to inform the population, but to make it change;

RECOGNIZING that each region has its own cultural values related to nature, which influence its means of communication and education so that it is appropriate to the people;

CONVINCED that education is a means to social learning and cultural renewal and that it develops competencies to critically reflect, understand, assess and apply knowledge and have the skills to take action;

AWARE that social changes towards sustainable development require more complex processes than the provision of information and knowledge;

AWARE that education and communication are essential components of an empowerment strategy for the IUCN Programme, and are a means to reducing vulnerability and risk of populations, helping to alleviate poverty, to reorient consumption patterns, and to reaffirm the relationship between humans and nature;

ALARMED by the loss of positioning and political visibility of environmental education on national and international environmental agendas during recent years; and

REAFFIRMING AND EXTENDING Resolution 2.50 *Environmental education in the Meso-American Component Programme* adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

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

1. REQUESTS the IUCN Director General to launch regional programmes in order to support the *United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development*, to be celebrated from 2005 to 2014; and
2. REQUESTS the IUCN Director General to incorporate specific activities and goals on education and communication into the *IUCN Intersessional Programme 2005–2008* pursuant to the aforementioned point.

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.