

### **RES 3.032 Volunteer translators and interpreters to serve IUCN**

NOTING that much of the work of IUCN is done by experts, non-governmental organizations and others working on a voluntary basis, often with interaction and sharing of ideas between people of different languages;

AWARE that sometimes the transmission of knowledge, ideas and other work of the Union for improved conservation is hampered by lack of language interpretation and/or translation;

RECOGNIZING that there are supporters of the Union, as well as individuals within IUCN members, affiliates, Commissions and other organs of the Union, who are both qualified and willing voluntarily to translate documents or to act as interpreters into the official and/or target languages of IUCN and its outreach targets;

AWARE that those in the Union who need gratis translation and/or interpretation services mostly do not know who is able and willing to help in this way;

RECOGNIZING that there is seldom translation or interpretation across specialist groups, Commissions or other units and organs of IUCN;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that not all such language-qualified and willing members, affiliates, Commission members and supporters have been identified and are contributing translations or interpretations; and

GIVEN the increasing need for translation and interpretation within and across IUCN regions and activities;

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

REQUESTS the IUCN Director General to:

- (a) conduct a survey of IUCN members, affiliates, Commissions, other organs and supporters to identify individuals and organizations who would be prepared to provide voluntary translation or interpretation services and to identify areas of need for such services;
- (b) develop a steering group to investigate and report to Council on how a coordinating mechanism can be established to maintain a database or other information mechanism to allow for the matching of such volunteers with those in the Union who need such services for the work of the Union;
- (c) consider that one option could be that volunteers be sought to organize these voluntary translation and interpretation services; and
- (d) consider how to maintain information on the availability of such gratis translation and interpretation services and to make this information available to all members, Commissions, specialist groups and organs of the Union.

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

*State and agency members United States abstained during the vote on this motion.*