

RES 3.003 Engagement by IUCN with local and regional government authorities

CONSIDERING that, in many countries, the transfer of competences in the field of the environment and nature conservation has been, or shall be, made in part to the benefit of local and regional government authorities;

CONSIDERING FURTHER that local and regional government authorities conduct or support many nature conservation activities and that they must be encouraged to pursue and improve this course of action;

NOTING that many authorities have committed themselves more widely to sustainable development (e.g. Local Agenda 21, participation in the World Summit on Sustainable Development, decentralized cooperation activities);

CONSIDERING that, in their capacity as the administrative level closest to citizens, local and regional government authorities play an important role in encouraging society as a whole to protect the environment;

NOTING that IUCN brings together states, governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations on the issue of nature conservation;

HIGHLIGHTING the conclusions of the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003) requesting improved governance and greater involvement of local communities for protected areas; and

CONSIDERING that IUCN must bring together all potential parties in conservation and encourage all nature conservation policies, particularly those implemented at the local level;

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

CALLS UPON the IUCN Council to examine and report to members on methods by which IUCN can better engage with local and regional government authorities.