

### **RES 3.043 Resource-based conflicts in Darfur, Sudan**

NOTING the fragile arid and semi-arid ecosystem of the Darfur region in western Sudan, which has been subjected to recurrent droughts and intensive desertification;

ALSO NOTING that human and domestic animal population increases from within the region, in Sudan as well as in neighbouring countries, coupled with environmental conditions, are leading to serious degradation of the environment and destructive competition over land resources between settled cultivators and nomadic pastoralists, and are also leading to famines;

CONSCIOUS of the transboundary movement of humans and animals, the easy proliferation of firearms into the area and the failure of governments to sustainably manage land resources for the different users; and

ALARMED by the fact that the ongoing conflict has persisted for more than 16 months and has claimed many lives, destroyed properties and displaced at least a million citizens and that the war which started as a resource-based conflict could develop into an ethnic war and could spread into other regions of Sudan and neighbouring countries;

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

REQUESTS the IUCN Director General, as security conditions allow, to:

- (a) recommend to the Government of Sudan development of a conservation strategy for the Darfur region with special emphasis on areas prone to desertification;
- (b) contribute to the design of a land-use plan for Darfur to ensure sustainability of natural resources for all users;
- (c) assist development of management plans for each of Jebel Mara, Radom National Park and Wadi Howar National Park incorporating sustainable development as well as biodiversity conservation; and
- (d) promote the building of local capacity for natural resource management.

State member Sweden abstained from voting on this motion for reasons given in the Swedish Government's general statement on the motions process (see page x).

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.*