

RES 3.047 Durban Action Plan and CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas

RECALLING the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (WPC), generously hosted by South Africa in Durban, 8–17 September 2003, which adopted the *Durban Accord*, and the *Message to the Convention on Biological Diversity* on the importance of protected areas and noted the *Durban Action Plan* and the 32 Workshop Recommendations;

WELCOMING the achievements of the WPC and in particular its success in influencing the decisions of the 7th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity – CBD (Kuala Lumpur, 2004);

NOTING in particular the welcome adoption of a Decision and *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* (CBD Decision VII/28), which strongly reflects guidance from the WPC, and includes an important set of tasks specifically addressed to IUCN and its World Commission on Protected Areas;

ALSO NOTING the joint non-governmental organization (NGO) commitment on protected areas made during the 7th Conference of the Parties, where BirdLife International, Conservation International, Fauna and Flora International, The Nature Conservancy, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Wide Fund For Nature, and World Resources Institute all committed themselves to supporting Governments in implementing the *CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas*;

WELCOMING the collaborative approach between governments and civil society that has been enhanced for the implementation of this *Programme of Work*, and in particular the establishment of agreements between countries and national NGOs for this purpose; and

BELIEVING that IUCN should give urgent attention and priority to the actions called for in Durban and Kuala Lumpur, as there are now greater and more precise international and inter-governmental expectations of IUCN in the field of protected areas;

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

1. REQUESTS the IUCN Director General to ensure that IUCN-led actions in the *Durban Action Plan* that have been incorporated into relevant components of the *IUCN Intersessional Programme 2005-2008* are undertaken in a timely and effective way; and
2. DECIDES that actively supporting the *CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas* be made a programmatic priority for all relevant IUCN component programmes, including at national and regional levels.