

RES 3.004 Ratification and implementation of the revised African Convention

RECALLING Resolution 16.10 *Regional Conventions* of the 16th IUCN General Assembly (Madrid, 1984) and Recommendation 1.83 *Forest Ecosystems of Africa* of the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996);

NOTING the 1968 African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (Algiers Convention), which was drafted with support from IUCN and which, at the time of its adoption, was recognized as one of the most modern legal instruments for the conservation of the environment;

COMMENDING the Governments of Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon and Nigeria for their initiative to bring about the revision of the Convention;

FURTHER COMMENDING the Commission of the African Union (formerly the Organization of African Unity), the United Nations Environment Programme and IUCN for their endeavour in updating the text of the 1968 African Convention in order to take into account recent developments in the African environment and natural resources spheres, while bringing the Convention to the forefront of current multilateral environmental agreements; and

WELCOMING the decision of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union held at Maputo, Mozambique, 10-12 July 2003, to approve the revised 1968 African Convention;

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

1. URGES African States, as far as they have not yet done so, to sign and ratify the revised African Convention in order to bring it into force as early as possible; and

2. REQUESTS the IUCN Director General to:

(a) assist the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union to take all necessary measures to raise awareness and understanding of the revised Convention in order to facilitate its implementation; and

(b) transmit IUCN's readiness to answer the call of the African Union to collaborate with the Commission, the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN), the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and Member States of the African Union to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention.

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.