

RES 3.059 IUCN's energy-related work relevant to biodiversity conservation

NOTING that sound and sustainable energy policies are essential to fulfilment of IUCN's mission and in particular to the conservation of the earth's biodiversity;

NOTING that global warming is primarily caused by energy-related combustion of fossil fuels and that it threatens disastrous consequences to biodiversity and natural resources;

APPRECIATING the work presently being done by IUCN to address the impact of climate change and to promote sustainable energy policies;

WELCOMING the work that the IUCN Environmental Law Programme, through the IUCN Environmental Law Centre and the Climate and Energy Specialist Group of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law, has done to promote the concept of energy law for sustainable development;

AWARE that the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) adopted Resolution 2.17 *Climate and energy*, recognizing the importance of energy to IUCN's mission and specifically requesting the IUCN Director General "to request IUCN Regional Offices... to help educate government officials, civil society and the private sector about the World Energy Assessment and about cleaner, more affordable available energy options evaluated therein";

RECALLING that *Agenda 21* of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development called upon all nations to promote sustainable development utilizing the precautionary principle; that the 9th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development called on all nations to promote clean energy policies; that the *Plan of Implementation* adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002) contains specific guidance for implementing those policies; and that the 14th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development in 2006–2007 will be devoted to energy policy issues;

NOTING that in the *IUCN Intersessional Programme 2005-2008* it is stated that: "Energy is likely to become a more important issue in the coming years" and that "The effectiveness of our future work... will depend not only on rich disciplinary knowledge, but also on the capacity to integrate different knowledge fields";

EMPHASIZING the need to recognize IUCN's energy-related work as a central part of its programme, and mindful that there now exists no formal IUCN plan of action specifically dedicated to promotion of energy for sustainable development and no focal point within the IUCN Secretariat to coordinate and facilitate the development of IUCN's energy-related work and ensure that this work contributes to carrying out IUCN's mission; and

THANKING the Commission on Environmental Law, its Energy Law and Climate Change Specialist Group and the IUCN Centre for Environmental Law for their leadership since the 1st World Conservation Congress in relation to the Union's technical advice on energy policy and law;

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

1. CALLS ON IUCN to provide leadership in advancing ecologically-sound energy systems for sustainable development, as a necessary and core part of the biodiversity conservation objectives of the Union and in preparation for IUCN's active participation in the 14th and 15th Sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

2. REQUESTS the IUCN Director General to develop a plan of action within the IUCN Programme on ecologically-sound energy systems for sustainable development, climate stabilization, and

conservation of biological diversity, in advance of the 14th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

3. INVITES all IUCN Commissions, within their mandates, to continue working with the IUCN Director General in the implementation of the IUCN Programme and plan of action with respect to ecologically-sound energy systems for sustainable development, climate stabilization, and conservation of biological diversity; and

4. URGES all stakeholders and donors to give every consideration to providing the support necessary to enable the development and implementation of new energy conservation and efficiency systems, and new and renewable sources of energy, as being fundamental to sustainable development.

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.