

4.124 Forest conservation in Tasmania

RECALLING Recommendation 18.70 *Wilderness and Forest Conservation in Tasmania* adopted by the 18th IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990) and Recommendation 19.89 *Forest Conservation in Tasmania, Australia* adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994);

NOTING that IUCN is committed to the importance of maintaining the integrity of the IUCN Protected Area Categories;

NOTING that in decision 32 COM 7B.41, taken by the World Heritage Committee at its 32nd session (Quebec City, 2008), the Committee *"Reiterates its request to the State Party to consider, at its own discretion, extension of the property to include appropriate areas of tall eucalyptus forest, having regard to the advice of IUCN"*;

NOTING that IUCN's advice to the 32nd session of the World Heritage Committee included the following: *"In the view of IUCN, it would be desirable that a moratorium on logging activity in areas of potential outstanding universal value be considered, as logging in these areas would foreclose the option of adding these areas to the property"*;

ALARMED that most of the forests in the nine areas identified in IUCN Recommendation 18.70 (Beech Creek/Counsel River, Wylds Craig, Gordon and Tiger Range, Upper Florentine, Upper Styx, Middle Weld, Middle Huon, Picton Valley and Southeast Cape) are still under threat from logging activities;

RECALLING that Recommendation 18.70 called on the Tasmanian State Government and the Government of Australia to protect all National Estate areas contiguous with the current Western Tasmanian Heritage Site and the temperate rainforests of north-west Tasmania already listed on the Register of the National Estate; and

AWARE that these areas together with the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area comprise one of the world's greatest temperate wilderness areas and are home to rare and threatened species such as the Tasmanian Wedge-Tailed Eagle *Aquila audax*, the Spotted-Tail Quoll *Dasyurus maculatus* and the Giant Freshwater Crayfish *Astacopsis gouldi*;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:

CALLS ON the Tasmanian and Australian Governments to implement urgently decision 32 COM 7B.41 of the 32nd session of the World Heritage Committee (Quebec City, 2008) in which the Committee: *"Reiterates its request to the State party to consider, at its own discretion, extension of the property to include appropriate areas of tall eucalyptus forest, having regard to the advice of IUCN"*, and recalls IUCN advice to the World Heritage Committee that: *"it would be desirable that a moratorium on logging activity in areas of potential outstanding universal value be considered, as logging in these areas would foreclose the option of adding these areas to the property"*.

State and agency members of the 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 U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.