

4.050 Recognition of Indigenous Conservation Territories

NOTING that Latin America provides global leadership in co-management and shared responsibility for protected areas along with indigenous peoples, afrodescendents and various ethnic groups, whose territories, lands and resources have been in many cases preserved through their traditional practices and knowledge;

ALSO NOTING that there is still insufficient participation of these groups and that they do not fully exercise their collective and individual rights, which are guaranteed by national and international legislation;

RECOGNIZING how important it is that this rich human resource, in regard to experience and lessons learned, be appropriately utilized for policy making and establishing global and regional technical guidelines on protected areas, and for promoting scientific and traditional knowledge, as well as respect for the human rights of the peoples and communities that have inhabited these areas from time immemorial;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the knowledge, innovations and traditional practices of indigenous peoples contribute to the conservation of biological diversity, and therefore to environmental quality and sustainable development in Latin America and other parts of the world;

AWARE that the range of options for protecting areas of high ecological and cultural value must be broadened, for which it is necessary to use the range of existing options in the various categories of protected areas, under different schemes of administration and governance; and

NOTING the need to facilitate and strengthen the informed participation of local communities, indigenous peoples, afro-descendants, civil society organizations, women's associations, scientists and academics, consumers, as well as the private sector in the participatory planning of protected areas, applying the principles of good governance, such as transparency, fairness, accountability and access to conflict management mechanisms, and the development of mechanisms and initiatives that permit the effective management of these areas and the equitable distribution of the costs and benefits associated with the establishment and sustainable management of protected areas;

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

1. CALLS ON states, in a framework of cooperation that takes into account national and regional particularities, to make available the means to enable the full exercising and effective implementation of all the rights recognized by the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012:

2. CALLS ON the Director General to promote and support the recognition of Indigenous Conservation Territories as a legitimate model of governance of protected areas superimposed over the territories of indigenous peoples, following the governance guidelines contained in the IUCN publication, *Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories*, independent of the management category, taking into account the need for the integration of culture and nature, the role of customary law, traditional constituted authority, and the exercise of indigenous authority in such territories.

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.

The Statements for the record made by the State members Australia, Canada and New Zealand in relation to Resolution 4.048 also apply to this Resolution.