

4.005 Mainstreaming gender equity and equality within the Union

CONSIDERING that the relevance and impact of gender equity and equality on the use, management and conservation of natural resources, environmental management and sustainable human development planning have become apparent at conferences, meetings, forums, congresses and summits which have taken place on the subject of environment and development over the last 15 years (e.g. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, *Agenda 21*, World Water Forum II and III, World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), Beijing Platform for Action, the *Millennium Development Goals*);

NOTING that the gender and environment issue is now a priority issue on the international agenda;

BEARING IN MIND that IUCN has been playing a major role in mainstreaming gender in international forums (e.g. development of Plan of Action for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); gender and climate change consideration in the Commission on Status of Women);

REMEMBERING that during the 1st, 2nd and 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congresses (Montreal, 1996; Amman, 2000; Bangkok, 2004), Resolutions were passed with a view to mainstreaming the gender perspective in the work of IUCN, and that IUCN currently has a policy on gender equity and equality (*Mainstreaming Gender in IUCN - A Policy Statement*, 1998), which was revised by IUCN's Council in 2007;

NOTING that while a Gender and Biodiversity Task Force has been functioning since November 2006 within IUCN's Council and has supported the fulfilment of IUCN's gender equity and equality policy, there is much work remaining; and

RECOGNIZING that the Union, in recent years, has begun to make substantial efforts to incorporate the gender perspective into the way it operates as an institution, but that these initiatives do not yet comply fully with the standards set in the institution's gender policy and the mandates adopted by previous IUCN World Conservation Congresses;

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

1. REQUESTS IUCN's Council to continue efficiently to mainstream gender equality and equity through the continuation of Council's Gender and Biodiversity Task Force according to the *IUCN Gender Policy*;

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. REQUESTS the Director General to ensure that gender equity and equality are an imperative in the implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009-2012* as well as annual plans of programmes, initiatives and projects carried out by the Secretariat; and
3. URGES the Chairs of IUCN's Commissions to work toward the fulfilment of *IUCN's Gender Policy*.