

of biological diversity, and, as a result, to take a significant step forward in achieving *Millennium Development Goal* (MDG) number 7 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, namely to “ensure environmental sustainability” and MDG Target 9 “integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes to reverse the losses of environmental resources”;

AWARE of the necessity to promote wide-ranging implementation of the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines*, going hand-in-hand with the development of indicators that provide governments, resource managers and other stakeholders with appropriate means to monitor implementation and effectiveness; and

BELIEVING that IUCN, including its members and Commissions, is able to play a leading role by bringing its experience into the process and advising governments and resource managers as they address the application of the *Principles and Guidelines* to their spheres of responsibility;

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

1. NOTES WITH APPRECIATION the adoption of the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity* by CBD COP7;
2. REQUESTS the IUCN Director General to:
 - (a) ensure that the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines*, as well as the *IUCN Policy Statement on Sustainable Use of Wild Living Resources*, are appropriately reflected in all IUCN policies and programmes;
 - (b) promote initiatives which enable relevant components of the Union to work together to develop tools for the implementation of sustainable-use principles in practice, while maintaining a distinctive focal point for forward thinking; and
 - (c) advise the Executive Secretary of the CBD that IUCN stands ready to continue

collaboration in the implementation of recommendations for further development of the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines*, as adopted at COP 7, and recommends that consideration be given to updating the *Principles and Guidelines* in due course, in order to reflect any important developments relating to sustainable development and environmental conservation; and

3. ENCOURAGES IUCN and its members to:
 - (a) report case studies that describe both positive and negative experiences in the implementation and outcomes of sustainable use programmes and to identify lessons learned; and
 - (b) provide these case studies to the CBD Secretariat and other relevant organizations.

The Department of State, United States, provided the following statement for the record:

State and agency members United States voted against this motion.

3.075 Applying the Precautionary Principle in environmental decision-making and management

NOTING that the Precautionary Principle, as set out in Principle 15 of the 1992 *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development*, has been widely endorsed in international environmental agreements and declarations and provides guidance for responding to scientific uncertainty;

AWARE that implementation of the Precautionary Principle to anticipate and prevent potential environmental damage presents crucial challenges for environmental governance and management;

RECOGNIZING the fundamental importance of the Precautionary Principle for conservation and sustainable development and prevention of environmental degradation;

DESIRING to promote shared understanding of the Precautionary Principle;

MINDFUL of the need to ensure that the Precautionary Principle is not applied in isolation, but in conjunction with other principles relevant to conservation and sustainable development;

RECALLING Resolution 1.45 *The Precautionary Principle* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), and NOTING efforts made by IUCN and its members toward fulfilling Resolution 1.45;

APPRECIATING the engagement of IUCN members and others towards developing guidance on the implementation of the Precautionary Principle;

NOTING concerns raised in *The Precautionary Principle in Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resource Management*, the report of a workshop held in Manila, June 2004;

DESIRING to encourage more effective and appropriate application of the principle through international and domestic legal frameworks that create legally binding and enforceable obligations for decision-makers in the public and private sectors; and

MINDFUL of discussions concerning various interpretations of the Precautionary Principle;

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

1. CALLS ON IUCN members, their representative bodies (e.g. Regional and National Committees), the Commissions, and the IUCN Director General, to:
 - (a) promote and develop tools for the appropriate and effective application of the Precautionary Principle in all areas and at all levels of environmental decision-making for conservation and sustainable development;
 - (b) investigate the relationship of the Precautionary Principle with other principles, such as public participation in decision-

making, intra- and intergenerational equity, and common but differentiated responsibility; and

- (c) promote a greater understanding of the legal application and operational implementation of the Precautionary Principle;

2. CALLS ON IUCN to establish an Inter-Commission Working Group on the Precautionary Principle, working with members representative of regions and disciplines, building on work carried out by IUCN members and others; and

3. FURTHER CALLS ON IUCN to encourage all decision-makers to apply the Precautionary Principle in ways that enhance conservation and sustainable development in all decisions relating to the environment at international and national levels.

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.

3.076 Illegal and unsustainable international trade in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Mekong river riparian states

RECALLING IUCN's commitment to the goal of controlling the unsustainable trade in wildlife species occurring among and from the Mekong riparian states (Resolution 2.63 *Illegal and/or unsustainable trade of wildlife species among and from the Mekong riparian countries*) and managing the unsustainable commercial trade in wild meat (Resolution 2.64 *The unsustainable commercial trade in wild meat*), both adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);