

RES 3.067 Strengthening stakeholder participation in fisheries management

RECALLING Resolution 2.21 *IUCN Marine Component Programme* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) and Recommendations V.1 *Strengthening institutional and societal capacities for protected area management in the 21st century*, V.2 *Strengthening individual and group capacities for protected area management in the 21st century* and V.16 *Good governance of protected areas* noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003);

RECALLING that the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) aims to “promote the peaceful uses of the seas and oceans, the equitable and efficient utilization of their resources, the conservation of their living resources, and the study, protection and preservation of the marine environment” (UNCLOS Preamble);

NOTING the increasing importance of the work of the IUCN Marine Programme;

RECOGNIZING the socio-economic importance of marine resources to the planet’s human population and especially coastal communities;

EMPHASIZING the need for increasing coherence between existing programmes and conventions related to fisheries management and the marine environment;

EMPHASIZING also the importance of taking into account the knowledge of all stakeholders, including fishers, in developing and implementing marine conservation programmes;

RECOGNIZING that fisheries are directly dependent upon the health of the marine environment;

TAKING NOTE of the global recognition of the need for stakeholder participation in fisheries management;

CONSIDERING that the effective regulation of fisheries is important for the conservation of marine biological diversity and productivity; and

RECOGNIZING that involvement of fishers in the development of effective fisheries regulations and their compliance with those regulations is critical to attaining sustainable fisheries;

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

1. REQUESTS the various components of IUCN to work more closely with fisheries authorities (national and regional), to ensure that all stakeholders, including fishers, are involved in initiatives and/or actions related to fisheries and ocean management;
2. REQUESTS IUCN to encourage the involvement of all stakeholders, including fishers, in research to improve the protection of the marine environment; and
3. CALLS ON IUCN to promote transparency in fisheries management by requesting all fisheries management authorities to engage in full stakeholder consultation and participation, including environment organizations, in fisheries management processes.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Turkey, provided the following statement for the record:

The Republic of Turkey is not a party to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). Turkey objects to making any reference to the said Convention.