

2.89 Marine protected areas in the Baltic Sea

RECOGNIZING the important role of marine protected areas as an effective method for the conservation of marine biodiversity and as a contribution to the sustainable use of living marine resources;

ACKNOWLEDGING that integrated coastal management is an essential means for achieving sustainable use of marine and coastal ecosystems;

RECALLING Recommendation 1.37 *Marine Protected Areas*, which was adopted by the 1st Session of the World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996) that:

“URGES all coastal states to move quickly to establish national systems of representative marine protected areas”; and

“RECOMMENDS that coastal States, as part of their overall programmes of marine protected areas, establish viable marine protected areas which meet the protection criteria for IUCN Categories I and II so as to safeguard a representative proportion of marine ecosystems in a natural state and thus help make it possible for sustainable use and the maintenance of biodiversity throughout their marine ecosystems”; and

ALSO RECALLING the Helsinki Commission Recommendation 15/5 on marine protected areas in the Baltic Sea;

The World Conservation Congress at its 2nd Session in Amman, Jordan, 4–11 October 2000:

1. URGES all coastal States in the Baltic Sea region to move quickly to establish the selected areas in the Baltic Sea as marine reserves;
2. RECOMMENDS that the States around the Baltic Sea whose economies are in transition be supported by other States with funding and expertise in order to establish and manage marine reserves;
3. REQUESTS IUCN members in all European States to support the establishment of marine reserves;
4. REQUESTS the Director General to report on the progress made toward implementation of this Resolution at the next World Conservation Congress.

This Recommendation was adopted by consensus. State and Agency members United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this Motion and took no national government position on the Recommendation as adopted, for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process (see p. 76).