

2.93 Conservation of Kaisho Forest, Japan

AWARE that at the 1997 General Assembly of the Bureau International des Expositions (BIE), the Government of Japan proposed an environmentally conscious exposition with a theme of 'Beyond Development - Rediscovering Nature's Wisdom' and that Japan was chosen as the host nation of the 2005 World Exposition;

RECOGNIZING that an environmental impact assessment published in 1999 by the Japan Association for the 2005 World Exposition revealed the Kaisho Forest, which is the proposed site for the Exposition and located near Nagoya City in Aichi Prefecture, to be a hotspot of biodiversity that includes endangered species listed in Red Data Books published by the Environment Agency of Japan;

ACKNOWLEDGING the efforts by the Government of Japan that have changed the Exposition site location three times and their withdrawal of an urban development and road construction plan for the purpose of protecting the threatened wetland vegetation and endangered Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*), which are found in the Kaisho Forest;

ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING the Government of Japan's commitment to secure habitat for plants and animals in the countryside ecosystem as stipulated in the Basic Environment Plan of 1994 and the National Strategy for Biodiversity Conservation in 1995; and

WELCOMING the initiative of the Bureau International des Expositions in taking a lead in the 2005 World Exposition, to achieve the best outcome as an environmentally conscious exposition;

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

1. CALLS ON the Bureau International des Expositions to continue to provide pertinent advice to the Government of Japan so that the 2005 World Exposition, to be held in Aichi Prefecture, Japan is conducted in an environmentally conscious manner; and
2. URGES the Government of Japan to take concrete actions, including establishing a National Countryside Park, so that the Kaisho Forest is conserved for the future.

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).