

2.98 To secure the environment of Gaza Strip, West Bank and Jerusalem

EXPRESSING CONCERN at the renewed outbreak of violence in the region and the resulting loss of human life and environmental impact;

RECOGNIZING that socio-economic and political stability are important to ensure environmental security and ecological integrity in the region; and

CONSIDERING that the Vision of IUCN is to create “a just world that values and conserves nature”, and that this Vision includes respect for human rights;

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

1. SUPPORTS all efforts to bring the violence to an end and to protect the environment;
2. URGES the protection of civilians, especially children;
3. FURTHER URGES respect for humanitarian and environmental principles consistent with International Law and Agreements;
4. NOTES with concern the degradation of land and natural resources in the region;
5. APPEALS to the international community to help ensure environmental security and to prevent deterioration of resources in the region;
6. AFFIRMS that the peace process offers an opportunity to build relations in order to better protect human life and the environment in the region.

This Recommendation was adopted by a show of hands. The delegations of the State members Australia, Guatemala, Japan, New Zealand, Russian Federation, and State and Agency members United States indicated that they had abstained from adoption of this Recommendation. The delegations of the State members Australia and New Zealand made formal Statements for the Record, indicating that they did not consider IUCN to be the appropriate forum for addressing this issue. The State member France, speaking on behalf of the European Union, made a formal Statement for the Record supporting the Recommendation. These Statements are reproduced in full in the Congress Proceedings.