

2.60 Conservation of the Western Black Rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis longipes*)

NOTING that the action plan drafted in 1999 by the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) African Rhino Specialist Group listed the Western Black Rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis longipes*) as critically endangered;

DEEPLY CONCERNED that only about 10 animals remain in the northern savannahs of the Republic of Cameroon;

NOTING with sincere regret that the efforts made by the IUCN/SSC African Rhino Specialist Group, in collaboration with the Government of the Republic of Cameroon, including the drafting of a recovery plan, have not succeeded in stopping the progressive disappearance of the last Western Black Rhinoceroses;

RECOGNIZING the current initiative of the Government of the Republic of Cameroon, in cooperation with IUCN, the World Wide Fund For Nature (WWF) and the IUCN/SSC African Rhino Specialist Group, aimed at establishing a plan for conserving the rhinoceroses in the wild; and

ACCEPTING that this initiative, including a technical mission to the Republic of Cameroon before the end of 2000 to agree on the required actions, will be the last concerted attempt to save this taxon from extinction;

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

1. REQUESTS the Government and President of the Republic of Cameroon to take all agreed and identified measures necessary to ensure the future of the Western Black Rhinoceros;
2. REQUESTS the Director General to promote the implementation of the necessary actions among donors in order to obtain financial support for these activities to secure this taxon in the wild.

This Resolution 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 Resolution as adopted, for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process (see p. 76).