

8. Principles Replacing Maximum Sustainable Yield as Basis for Management of Wildlife Resources

Recognizing the growing importance of many wild animal resources as a protein source for the world's increasing human population;

Recognizing also that past attempts to manage these resources have often allowed their gross depletion rather than assuring sustained or increasing yield;

Recalling that IUCN with the US National Appeal of the World Wildlife Fund and other organizations, sponsored a programme of workshops on wild and living resources which was completed this year, the main conclusion of which was that Maximum Sustainable Yield and other single species management concepts are not adequate as a basis for management of wild living resources, and that management should instead be based on ecological relationships according to the following principles:

- (1) the ecosystem should be maintained in such a state that both consumptive and non-consumptive values can be realized on a continuing basis, ensuring present and future options, and minimizing the risk of irreversible change or long-term adverse effects;
- (2) management decisions should include a safety factor to allow for limitations of knowledge and imperfections of management;
- (3) measures to conserve one resource should not be wasteful of another; and
- (4) survey or monitoring, analysis and assessment should precede planned use, and accompany actual use, of a resource and the results should be made available promptly for critical public review;

The 12th General Assembly of IUCN meeting in Kinshasa, Zaire, in September 1975:

Calls to the attention of governments and international organizations, such as the International Whaling Commission, which are concerned with the management of wildlife, including marine resources, the results of this programme including its statement of principles; and

Recommends that as far as possible, these new principles be applied to the management of wild animal resources.