

## **17.18 DEPLETION OF OZONE**

RECOGNIZING the importance of ozone in the stratosphere for the protection of life on earth from harmful ultraviolet radiation;

CONCERNED that depletion of ozone in the stratosphere above Antarctica in the spring has become steadily worse over the past 15 years;

AWARE that any general ozone depletion is likely to cause a severe reduction in yields of many of the most common crops, serious ecological effects, and an increase in numerous diseases, including skin cancer;

RECOGNIZING that such depletion is almost certainly due to chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and that these chemicals are also likely to contribute significantly to the "greenhouse effect" ;

WELCOMING the Montreal Protocol to the Convention on the Protection of the Ozone Layer as important progress towards the control of CFCs;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San Jose, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

1. CALLS UPON States who have not already done so to become parties to the Montreal Protocol for the protection of the ozone layer as soon as possible.
2. CALLS UPON States to give urgent attention to achieving further substantial reductions in the use of chemicals that deplete the ozone layer, with the aim of eliminating all emissions of such chemicals as soon as possible by:
  - a. Elimination of present non-essential applications of CFCs, for example as aerosol propellants;
  - b. The use of economic instruments to encourage the development and use of ecologically acceptable alternatives;
  - c. Ensuring that CFCs are not used when ecologically acceptable alternatives are available;
  - d. Preventing new non-medical applications of CFCs;
  - e. Adopting other effective measures to address this problem.
3. CALLS UPON States to initiate programmes for the safe and effective disposal of CFCs currently in use or in storage.

