Ассамблея

Distr.: General
26 July 2005
Russian
Original: English

Одиннадцатая сессия
Кингстон, Ямайка
15–26 августа 2005 года

Просьба о предоставлении статуса наблюдателя в Ассамблее

Записка Секретариата

Международный союз охраны природы и природных ресурсов (МСОП, или Всемирный союз охраны природы) 23 августа 2004 года направил на имя Генерального секретаря Международного органа по морскому дну письмо, содержащее просьбу о предоставлении МСОП статуса наблюдателя в Ассамблее Международного органа по морскому дну. МСОП имеет статус наблюдателя в Генеральной Ассамблее Организации Объединенных Наций с 17 декабря 1999 года (резолюция 54/195 Генеральной Ассамблеи). Копия оригинала письма МСОП прилагается (см. приложение)*.

* Распространяется на языке оригинала.

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Приложение

Письмо Генерального директора Международного союза охраны природы и природных ресурсов от 23 августа 2004 года на имя Генерального секретаря Международного органа по морскому дну

IUCN — The World Conservation Union (formally, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources) would like to request intergovernmental organization observer status at meetings of the International Seabed Authority, in accordance with rule 82 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority.

Created in 1948, IUCN is constituted as an international association of governmental and non-governmental members in accordance with article 50 of the Swiss Civil Code. IUCN is a unique organization. It brings together 78 States, over 100 government agencies, 800-plus NGOs and some 10,000 scientists and experts from more than 180 countries in a unique worldwide partnership. IUCN's mission is to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable. Copies of the IUCN statutes and regulations as well as its annual report for 2002 are attached for your reference.[a]

IUCN is the only conservation organization with observer status before the United Nations General Assembly, a status it received on 17 December 1999. A copy of resolution 54/195 of the United Nations General Assembly inviting IUCN to participate as an observer in its sessions and in its work is likewise attached.[a] In response to the invitation of the General Assembly, IUCN has participated in sessions of the General Assembly as an observer since 2000, including in its debates on the agenda item "Oceans and the law of the sea".

Through its Global Marine Programme, headquartered in Gland, Switzerland, led by Carl Gustaf Lundin, IUCN also participates in numerous international oceans meetings. It has responded to invitations to contribute to the annual reports of the Secretary-General on oceans and fisheries issues and to take part in expert groups such as that on the Global Marine Assessment in March 2004. Most recently IUCN participated at the third informal consultations of States Parties to the United Nations Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (8 July 2004, New York) and the United Nations Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (7-11 June 2004, New York).

IUCN enjoys intergovernmental organization status before major multilateral environmental agreement processes such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, to name a few. IUCN is now seeking similar intergovernmental organization observer status with the Authority.

[a] All enclosures to the present letter are available in the files of the secretariat of the International Seabed Authority.

For several decades, IUCN has been expanding its marine conservation efforts, and recently deepsea and high seas areas have become a particular concern. The Global Marine Programme seeks to provide for the protection, restoration, wise use, understanding and enjoyment of the world's marine heritage through sustainable management of all human activities affecting this heritage and through the further development and application of an appropriate range of tools, including the creation of a global, representative system of marine protected areas.

Following adoption of new policy guidance at the second IUCN World Conservation Congress in October 2000 (see enclosure no. 4 below),[a] IUCN has been developing with partners a high-seas ecosystem management project to conserve deepsea and high-seas marine living resources and biodiversity (see enclosures no. 8 and 9 below).[a] The GMP contributes to a variety of international marine policy forums and related conferences and workshops in order to further these goals, bringing to bear up-to-date conservation science and practical policy recommendations (see enclosures no. 6 and 7 below).[a] (Further information on IUCN's Global Marine Programme can be found at www.iucn.org/themes/marine).

IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas/Marine (WCPA/Marine) has been at the forefront of developing key publications and tools to improve identification and management of marine protected areas. A recently established task force of this group will concentrate on high seas protected areas, including protecting biodiversity hotspots of the deep seabed beyond national jurisdiction.

In addition, IUCN's Commission on Environmental Law, a network of over 970 environmental law experts in 138 countries that serves as one of the Union's principal sources of guidance on conservation and sustainable development law and policy, has an Ocean Law and Governance Specialist Group that aims to support biodiversity conservation and sustainable uses of the world's oceans through law and policy initiatives.

In view of the Authority's growing role and interest in conserving the biodiversity of the seabed beyond national jurisdiction and protecting the marine environment from activities in the Area, as well as your own efforts in promoting greater international collaboration in ocean research and exploration (including in deepsea areas), IUCN would welcome the opportunity to participate more actively in these discussions, workshops and related initiatives.

We look forward to favourable consideration by the Assembly at its next session of this request for intergovernmental organization observer status. Should you require any further information about IUCN and its work, please contact Carl Gustaf Lundin at carl.lundin@iucn.org.

(*Signed*) Achim **Steiner**
Director-General