

IUCN Academy of Environmental Law

***A learned society examining the ways law
advances a just society that values and conserves nature***

*In 2003, the Commission on Environmental Law of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources [IUCN] will launch a new scholarly network of environmental law faculties and professors: **The IUCN Academy of Environmental Law.***

IUCN invites the collaboration, cooperation and participation of universities in all regions of the world in this new endeavor to expand inter-regional legal research on the shared challenges that require environmental law solutions, and on capacity building to strengthen environmental legal education.

I. Setting the Agenda for 2003:

IUCN's 2nd World Conservation Congress, in Resolution 2.24, endorsed a proposal from the Union's Commission on Environmental Law to establish a new, worldwide Academy of Environmental Law in 2000. After extensive study, the Steering Committee of the Commission at its Steering Committee meeting in South Africa in August, 2002, recommended that the Council of IUCN approve and authorize the establishment of the IUCN ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW as an autonomous entity, associated with the Union's Environmental Law Programme. Based on the Commission's recommendation, the 57th Meeting of IUCN Council (9-11 December 2002) unanimously approved the establishment of the Academy and authorized the Committee to implement the Commission proposal for the Academy. The Commission will establish the Academy at the end of 2003, at the Academy's first annual Colloquium. Preparatory meetings are scheduled throughout 2003 leading to this launch.

II. Executive Summary: The Academy in a "Nutshell"

Expertise in environmental law has been a hallmark of IUCN's Programme since 1965. The Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) has built a network of expert volunteers legal specialists who are entrusted to develop and advance IUCN's institutional knowledge and experience in environmental law. As the field of environmental law has grown rapidly in all regions, it has been increasingly difficult for CEL to both provide expertise to the Union, and to respond to request to build the environmental law capacity in developing countries and economies in transition. In particular, CEL and the IUCN Environmental Law Centre in Bonn, Germany, have been hard pressed to devote the necessary expertise for the further "conceptual development" of this new field of law, as they did in the studies to design the Convention on the

International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) in 1971-73, or the Convention on Biological Diversity (1985-92).

Day-to-day demands, on both the volunteer and modest number of staff lawyers, increasingly preclude devoting the time needed for conceptual law development. Moreover, almost by definition the innovative research into conceiving new legal tools or methods for furthering systems of sustainability are not a part of the funded annual IUCN Programme and Budget, since the subjects of such innovative studies are still emerging, and thus do not yet have a clear Programmatic element or priority. Nonetheless, it is essential to the mission and objectives of IUCN that its legal knowledge network undertakes to further such conceptual law development.

After eight years of study, experimentation with capacity building programs, and dialogue with university faculties of law on a world-wide basis, CEL has determined that the most efficacious way to sustain the Union's contribution to building environmental law is for the IUCN CEL to become more closely allied with the university community's expertise in environmental law. To this end, CEL proposes the establishment of a new entity, to be known as the "IUCN Academy of Environmental Law."

The Academy would be composed of participating universities. It would be autonomous in its governance and financing, but coordinated with IUCN's Environmental Law Programme. The Academy's program would consist of (a) an annual conference to critically review environmental law and reflect on new concepts needed to make the field more effective, (b) an annual scholarly publication of the conference proceedings, (c) research projects on the conceptual development of environmental law, and (d) teaching and university-level capacity building in environmental law world-wide, with special attention to developing countries and countries with economies in transition. Details of the framework and operations of the Academy are set forth below.

III. Background: Preparing the Foundations for Proposing the Academy

IUCN's Commission on Environmental Law announced that it proposed to establish an international Academy of Environmental Law at the Council Meeting held in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary of IUCN celebrated in Fontainebleau, in 1998. The proposal had grown out of studies undertaken by Commission members in connection with the courses that the Commission conducted for law professors in Asia and the Pacific, held at the National University of Singapore. The IUCN World Conservation Congress in Amman, in Resolution 2.24, supported the work of the Commission to realize its objective in establishing the Academy. Its background and rationale may be briefly recounted as follows.

Since its origins in 1968, IUCN's Environmental Law Programme has made a singular contribution to the establishment of the field of environmental law, and to the conceptual development of innovations in how legal instruments and frameworks can advance conservation of nature and natural resources. Through pioneering studies, IUCN's Commission on Environmental Law and its Environmental Law Centre in Bonn, Germany, has paved the way for the adoption of treaties, such as the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) or the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and "soft law" such as the UN World Charter for Nature (UNGA Res.

37.7) or the “Amman Declaration,” (WCC Res. 2.97, A Marten’s Clause for Environmental Protection), as well as many national or regional laws. IUCN’s legal specialists have collaborated on the study and codification of practices and policies, such as those set forth in the Earth Charter and in the Draft Covenant on Environment and Development.

Conceptual development of new environmental laws has been the uniquely distinguishing hallmark of IUCN’s Environmental Law Programme. IUCN owes a great intellectual debt to Dr. Wolfgang E. Burhenne and to Dr. Françoise Burhenne-Guilmin for their insightful leadership in designing and fostering “conceptual law development” in the IUCN Environmental Law Programme. Through the wisdom of CEL scholars, such as Prof. Frank Grad, Dr. Alexandre Kiss, Prof. Paulo Affonso Leme Machado, Prof. Akio Morishima, Prof. Michel Prieur, Prof. Charles O. Okidi, Prof. Mere Pulea or the late Cyrille de Klemm (honored at the Amman WCC) and the late Prof. Oleg S. Kolbasov, CEL has built a scholarly tradition to conceive of new legal means for building a sustainable human society within the living natural systems of the biosphere.

Over the past two score of years, environmental law became universal. The volume of environmental laws has grown enormously. To cope with this growth, IUCN’s Commission on Environmental Law has collaborated with IUCN’s Members to establish a network of regional centres of excellence for studying environmental law and building capacity in environmental law. Many other institutions have inaugurated programs on environmental laws, complementing those of IUCN. The field is now so complex and the demands for study so extensive, that it is difficult for IUCN’s several hundred volunteer lawyers and modest full-time small staff of legal specialists to sustain both the demands for their expert services and the study and elaboration of new concepts for refining and advancing environmental law.

Recognizing these difficulties, in the mid 1990s the Commission on Environmental Law began consultations around the world on how to strengthen independent scholarly and professional research into environmental law. One of the Commissions contributions to the 50th Anniversary of IUCN in 1998 was the announcement that it was undertaking to establish an international Academy of Environmental Law. Extensive consultations were held with over legal scholars from more than 240 universities regarding how to further the teaching and research in environmental law. IUCN’s Commission on Environmental Law convened conferences and workshops and meeting in every region of the world between 1997 and 2002. The opportunity to collaborate through such an Academy was met with enthusiasm by law faculties in universities throughout the Earth. Discussions on cooperation have been held with the United Nations University, and with existing learned societies in different regions, such as the Association of American Law Schools in the USA (Environmental Law Section) or the recently established Society for Natural Resources and Environmental Law in the People’s Republic of China.

The UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) called for the need for new institutions along the lines of the Academy in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, and by the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg, in 2002. UNCED recommended in *Agenda 21* as follows {Para. 8.20}: “Competent international and academic institutions could, within agreed frameworks, cooperate to provide ... postgraduate programmes ... in development and environment law.

...Intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations already active in this field could cooperate with related university programmes to harmonize curriculum planning and to offer an optimal range of options to interested Governments and potential sponsors.)” More recently on 4 September 2002, the UN WSSD recommended in its *Plan of Implementation* {Para. 100(a)} as follows: “Improve interaction and collaboration, stakeholder relationships and networks between and among universities, research institutions, government agencies and the private sector.” WSSD stressed the need for such multi-disciplinary collaboration by higher educational institutions {Paras. 101-110}.

At the 2nd World Conservation Congress held in Amman, Jordan, in 2000, the IUCN Members considered and endorsed the proposal that a new Academy on Environmental Law be organized, and requested the Commission on Environmental Law to prepare a plan for review and endorsement by the Council of IUCN. At its Steering Committee meeting on 23 August 2002, in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, the Commission on Environmental Law determined to submit this proposal to the Council at its meeting in Gland, Switzerland, in December of 2002, and, after debating different names for this new academic network, resolved to propose that the new Academy be named the “IUCN Academy of Environmental Law.”

This Prospectus sets forth the structure, mandate, and work plan for a new, autonomous, network of university based environmental law experts, to work closely with IUCN’s Members, its Director General and Environmental Law Centre, and its Commission on Environmental Law, to undertake future research, studies and conferences on the further conceptual development of environmental law. Under the umbrella of IUCN, this Academy would become the first truly international learned society in the field of environmental law.

IV. The IUCN Academy of Environmental Law and IUCN

The IUCN Academy of Environmental Law is a consortium of specialized research centers in university law faculties, departments or schools, dedicated to advancing the effectiveness of the field of environmental law. The Academy focuses in particular on the conceptual development of environmental law, and to ascertaining how law can best advance a just society that values and conserves nature. An Academic Collegium, whose members are selected by the universities that comprise the Academy, directs the Academy. The Academy cooperates with IUCN’s Environmental Law Programme, but does not require financial support from IUCN and is autonomous of IUCN in its decision-making and studies. The research objectives of the Academy are to further the mission of IUCN, and the Academy uses the IUCN name and logo under a license that IUCN grants to it; if at any time the Council of IUCN determines that the Academy is not acting to further the mission of IUCN, it may revoke the use of the name and license, but the autonomous network of university law faculties constituting the Academy would continue. Until the Academy is launched, and has its own secretariat, the IUCN Environmental Law Centre, in cooperation with the Commission on Environmental Law, will provide the communications, assemble the initial rosters of members, and conduct related support for the Academy. Through the generosity of

Gilbert Kerlin, Esq., a distinguished member of the Bar of the State of New York, the Chair of the Commission on Environmental Law has the financial resources to convene working groups for the preparation of the Academy's founding instruments, with the participation of professors from all regions of the Earth.

V. The Framework of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law

a. Structure and governance

The IUCN Academy of Environmental Law is composed of individual university environmental law centres. Each center may nominate a member of the Academy's Academic Collegium. The Collegium directs the research and other programs of the Academy. The Chair of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law, and the Head of the IUCN Environmental Law Programme, or their delegates, are members of the Collegium, and of its Bureau, *ex officio*. The Collegium elects the Bureau of the Collegium, which functions as an executive committee of between 5-9 persons, from among the representatives of university centres represented in the Collegium. The Bureau is responsible for defining and undertaking the projects and cooperative programs and operations of the Academy. The Bureau elects its chairman and selects a Director for the Academy, who would be added as members of the Bureau *ex officio*, in the event that either had not already been elected to the Bureau.

It is anticipated that initially the Director would serve as a volunteer, until such time as the Academy has raised funds or an institution agrees to sponsor the position of the Director. Eventually, the Director would be provide the staff direction for the work of the Academy. Like most learned societies, a very modest secretariat is anticipated.

b. Minimum Requirements for University Participation

Membership as a partner university in the network of universities comprising the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law is intended for universities that have already made a significant commitment for study and teaching of environmental law. Universities that meet the initial criteria for membership would be admitted by the Collegium's Bureau as full members; universities that wish to cooperate with the Academy, but do not yet meet the Academy's membership criteria, may be added to a roster of "cooperating universities." Only full membership entitles a university to be a Member of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law, and send a representative to the Academy's Collegium.

The initial criteria for membership have been set by the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law's Steering Committee, through its Chair, Prof. Nicholas A. Robinson, and its Specialist Group on Environmental Legal Education (Prof. Lye Lin Heng, National University of Singapore, Chair). The Bureau of the Collegium may revise these criteria, and it is expected that the standards *will* be increased from time to time in order to encourage greater allocation of university, and non-university, resources to build up environmental law research in universities throughout all regions.

To be a member of the Academy, each university, at a minimum, shall:

- (1) Have two or more professors of law specialized in one or more subjects of environmental law, as regularly appointed members of their law department, school or faculty;
- (2) Teach on a regular basis at least two (and ideally all) of the following subjects: national environmental law, comparative environmental law, and international environmental law; and an advanced topic in environmental law (e.g. environmental law of the sea, biodiversity law, pollution law, etc.); work together in distance teaching using the Internet and audio-video team teaching techniques;
- (3) Have a research collection on environmental law in the law library of the university, and publish a law journal or articles and books on environmental law);
- (4) Commit to support participation of one or more of its environmental law specialists in collaborative work of the Academy, and if possible to host one of the Academy's annual Colloquia on environmental law (e.g., joint research projects, exchanges of teaching or research staffs, exchanges of post-graduate students, etc.).

The Bureau will establish application procedures for universities to apply to be Members. As the Academy's programme develops and becomes known, universities will become interested in building their own capacities in order to qualify to become member institutions in the Academy. While this is not as rigorous as an accreditation procedure, the process of qualifying for membership in the Academy will serve to stimulate professional and scholarly development within the field of environmental law.

Membership in the Academy, and participation in the Collegium, would be open to all universities that meet the admission criteria; there would be no limitation on the numbers of universities per region or per country. Among the many Universities consulted to date, CEL has identified some 35 universities, representative of each region, which are willing to participate in the planning process to launch the Academy. These Universities meet the initial criteria to qualify as members of the Academy. Many more do also, and over time, it is expected that they would elect to join the Academy. Funding is in place to facilitate participation from qualifying universities in developing nations and nations with economies in transition. This initial group of universities that can demonstrate that they fully meet the criteria would form the Academy's first Collegium, and elect its Bureau, at the end of 2003.

In addition to the institutional university members of the Academy, individual professors distinguished in the field of environmental law would be invited to be named Fellows of the Academy. In this way, the participation of individual scholars would be encouraged, whether or not their university can or wishes to be a participating member of the Academy. The Bureau of the Academy will be invited to establish criteria for election of a small number of the most distinguished individual associate members to the category of Academician. After criteria are adopted and announced, the Board would elect individuals as Academicians of the Academy from time to time, in recognition of their work for the Academy and their academic accomplishments in environmental law. Finally, a distinguished Advisory Council would be named, composed of individuals who

are acknowledged and renown for their environmental law expertise. This Advisory Council would include non-academics among its members.

VII. The Programme of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law

The initial programme of the Academy is designed to have the following features:

- 1) **Annual Study Colloquium in Environmental Law** - An annual international Colloquium of Environmental Law, with the proceedings to be published as *The Annals of the IUCN Academy*. IUCN's Commission on Environmental Law has conducted such Colloquia in order to test the process (e.g. Asian Development Bank Institute in Tokyo, 2002; Pietermaritzburg University in 2002; Kuwait University in 2000; 2nd WCC in Amman, Jordan, 2000; 1st WCC in Montreal, Canada; Pace University in 1994). The Colloquia would be on different topics of environmental law. The host university would sponsor and organize the Colloquium and edit the proceedings for publication as *The Annals*. At present there is no regular international academic gathering of specialists in environmental law; since the late 1970s, the numbers of experts have grown rapidly and unlike when CEL was founded, today most CEL experts do not now know each other personally. This Colloquium will facilitate collaboration and communication among experts in each region of the world and internationally.

The Colloquia would be scheduled for three years in advance, and commitments from participating Universities arranged on that basis. The first Colloquium, in 3-6 December 2003, would be at the National University of Singapore; tentatively the Colloquia in 2004-6 in Sao Paulo, in Auckland, New Zealand, and in New York.

The Bureau of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law would arrange with an academic publisher to publish and distribute *The Annals*, in consultation with the IUCN Environmental Law Programme.

Participation in the annual Colloquium would be encouraged internationally. At the same time, since the Colloquia would move around the world, the event periodically would also afford the environmental law specialists in each region an opportunity to participate without requiring extensive travel and cost. Those who could not attend in any given year would be able to study the conference debates in *The Annals*.

- 2) **Encouraging the teaching of Environmental Law, through preparation of published references, text books, and curriculum development** - The Bureau would arrange for preparation and publication a set of regional teaching books on environmental law for each region, such as the two volumes of the ADB-IUCN-UNEP References for Environmental Law in Asia

and the Pacific. These would constitute the basis for comparative law instruction in the regions, and between regions. The Bureau would encourage preparation and publication within each country of a national text on environmental law. The Bureau would encourage further elaboration and updating of the several texts on international environmental law.

The objective of this endeavor is to ensure that each university has the teaching and reference materials for providing the core courses on (a) national environmental law, (b) comparative environmental law, and (c) international environmental law. Through this effort, the foundations of environmental law as a specific field of law can be agreed upon across all universities. At present, only universities in Asia/Pacific, Africa (primarily East Africa, where UNEP has provided the comparative publications) and Europe can be said to have these resources.

Such a set of books now exists, for instance, for The Philippines, with the publication of Tony Oposa's textbook on Environmental Law in The Philippines, and for Asia and the Pacific in the two reference books on environmental law published by the Asian Development Bank. IUCN CEL will hold a national conference for law professors on curriculum development and the teaching of environmental law in The Philippines in May of 2003. Once the comparable teaching and reference materials are compiled in each region, comparable capacity building activities with universities can be undertaken wherever it is needed.

Teaching interactive "real time" Environmental Law courses over the Internet, or via audio-video systems, will also be encouraged. Some asynchronous basic courses may be provided, but primary engagement of teachers with students is preferred. Law professors at the National University of Singapore and Pace University have pioneered these techniques.

Finally, because participating universities would include comparable courses, the Academy could encourage exchanges of teachers between individual schools. The Bureau would facilitate exchanges of teaching and research faculty among and between universities that are members of the Academy. Such exchanges would enhance the teaching of environmental law, build up the network of scholars who know and collaborate with each other, and enhance comparative study of environmental law. Where appropriate, these educational teach endeavors could be multiplied by providing them, in cooperation with UNITAR on the provision of environmental law training to diplomats and other professionals.

- 3) **Research** - The Bureau, in collaboration with IUCN's Environmental Law Programme, would identify research issues that require further study. The Bureau would then encourage study of these priority issues, with the publication of such studies, through the university members of the Academy,

or individual scholars. A research agenda would be prepared in consultation with the IUCN Environmental Law Programme, in furtherance of and cooperation with the UN Environment Programme “Montevideo” Environmental Law Programme, and in collaboration as appropriate with the United Nations University, UN Peace University and UNESCO and other appropriate institutions. Research funding from such institutions would be through and for the Academy’s member university law faculties, under agreed terms of and reference, and would not be for general support of the Academy.

As funding permits, the Bureau would encourage or sponsor at least three inter-regional studies at any one time (e.g. a comparative study of how environmental standards are accommodated by regional market integration associations, such as ASEAN, MERCOSUR, and NAFTA; or comparative techniques for effective environmental impact assessment and public participation in environmental decision-making; or a comparative study of how mountain areas may best structure environmental laws, such as the Alpine Convention in Europe, the Andean Pact in South America, and the informal cooperation among States in the Altai in Eurasia; or issues of marine law in different oceanic regions). Research into the conceptual developments needed to leverage environmental law toward greater effectiveness would be a priority.

- 4) **Post-Graduate Student Exchanges** - The Bureau, in cooperation with interested universities, would study the establishment of a *Diploma*, which the Academy could confer for graduate law students who complete a period of study at one of the Academy’s member university other than the one from which they secured their own law degree. This could encourage students to experience environmental law in at least two different regions, and learn more effectively comparative environmental law.
- 5) **Multi-Disciplinary Collaboration** - The existence of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law as a scholarly learned society will make it possible for other learned societies to identify appropriate experts in order to include the field of environmental law in their own multi-disciplinary research. Once it is recognized that there are experts identified and available for multi-disciplinary academic work, requests inevitably will be made for such participation, which in turn will strengthen environmental law. The Bureau will facilitate such multi-disciplinary research. At present, there is relatively little such collaboration, in large part because it is difficult for those outside of the field of environmental law in many nations to identify and reach appropriate legal experts.

VIII. Financing for the Academy

The Academy's Programme has been designed to build upon the core capacities and budgets of the participating Universities, and to supplement those budgets by raising funding for inter-regional environmental law research projects among participating universities. It is not anticipated that significant funding is needed from outside the network of Universities in order to launch and operate the Academy. The sponsoring university would finance the annual Colloquium, including revenues from appropriate registration fees; scholarship funds for participation by scholars from developing countries would be sought on a conference-by-conference basis. The **Annals** would be published by a commercial academic or legal publishing house, and be financed by the sale of the **Annals**, with royalties going to the Academy to support its modest annual budget.

Initially, the IUCN Environmental Law Centre would provide the modest secretariat services, mostly correspondence, and continue its support as a part of its on-going administrative support for CEL. The participating universities would be invited to provide resources to host this secretariat function at one of their campuses, and appropriate arrangements to establish the Academy's secretariat would be formally agreed. Participating universities will agree on modest fees to defray some of the Academy's secretariat expenses. The Bureau would meet at least annually, during the same time period as the Colloquium, and the participating schools would finance their own representatives' travel to both.

CEL will seek further funding from outside of IUCN's budgetary revenues to launch the Secretariat and Academy; while universities would prefer that a new grant finance this effort, the Academy can launch its secretariat, on a modest basis, within one of several university centers without major new funds.

The research projects would require external funding. Research into new conceptual law development or inter-regional studies can be funded by grants. The participating university would work through the Bureau to prepare project proposals, and these would be submitted to appropriate institutions for grants to fund that research. Inter-regional research collaboration among universities would be essential, to ensure that law faculties in developing States participate fully with those in developed States. The Bureau would facilitate outreach for new funds, enabling now isolated universities to have participate in funded research opportunities now denied to them.

The participating universities would undertake the preparation of references and textbooks. Where university capacity building programs are requested, the Academy will approach other institutions for funding for these projects. As with the IUCN CEL/UNEP/ADB program on teaching environmental law at the university level in Asia and the Pacific, or IUCN's forthcoming (May, 2002) major workshop on university environmental law curriculum and teaching in The Philippines, funds for such capacity building can be sought and will be. Such courses for professors strengthen the rule of law and ultimately the legal foundations for sustainable development and a just and well-ordered society.

Until funding for research or capacity building projects is received, the Academy would not be in a position to undertake many such activities, and thus would not incur any expenses. The Academy would be autonomous and, with the approval of the IUCN

Council, would establish itself as an independent body corporate, thus insulating IUCN or the member universities from any responsibility for the expenses and debts of the Academy.¹ It is thus expected that the Academy will cooperate with the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law by enhancing study, research, teaching and education at the university level, for building the effectiveness of environmental law worldwide.²

VIII. Immediate Steps Toward the Establishment of the Academy

Upon receiving the approval of Council, the Commission on Environmental Law will convene a working session of university representatives in the first half of 2003 to structure the initial Academy bylaws, memoranda of understanding for the universities to enter into with the Academy, and invitations for the initial advisory committee and associates. IUCN CEL has funding from the Kerlin Grant of the Pace University Center for Environmental Legal Studies (an IUCN Member), to pay all these expenses to gather university representative to prepare for the launch of the Academy's Collegium. The founding universities would then launch the Academy at the first of the Academy's Colloquia, a conference on Environmental Law and Biotechnology to be held at the National University of Singapore in December of 2003. At the request of the CEL Steering Committee, the current Chair of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law would serve, *pro tempore*, as the initial chair of the Collegium and Bureau, to facilitate the launch of the Academy's institutions. The IUCN Environmental Law Centre would provide the initial secretariat for the Academy.

IX. The Invitation:

IUCN invites interested university law faculties, individual professors of environmental law, organizations and institutions concerned with the progressive development of environmental law and legal education, and donors to participate in establishing the IUCN ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW.

Inquiries may be address to Prof. Nicholas A. Robinson, Chair, IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (Pace University School of Law, 78 N. Broadway, White Plains, New York 10603, Tel: 1-914-422-4244; Fax: 1-914-422-4261; or IUCN Environmental Law Centre, Godesberger Allee 108-

¹ This is analogous to the pattern that the IUCN Statutes require for IUCN's national or regional membership committees, which may have their own separate legal personality {IUCN Statutes, Article 71(a)} and shall be self-governing and shall not impose financial obligations or liabilities upon IUCN {IUCN Statutes, Article 71b}. IUCN Statutes, and information on IUCN, is at www.iucn.org.

² CEL expects that a number of the universities participating in the Academy eventually w also will seek to join IUCN as Members, in accordance with IUCN Regulations {IUCN Regulation 5(b)} that provide that any duly accredited university, similar institution of higher learning, and its specialized center(s) and research institute(s), organized within a State may seek to join IUCN if it is non-profit, has been in existence three years, is an academic or professional entity of high standing, and is autonomous in its administration and governance. There is precedent for this; three years after CEL and the Law Faculty of the National University of Singapore collaborated to establish the Asia Pacific Regional Centre for Environmental Law (APCEL), IUCN's Council duly admitted APCEL to membership in IUCN.

112, Bonn, D-53175 Germany).

{16 December 2002)