

## **Governing Council of the United Nations Programme**

### **Twenty Second Session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum**

**Committee of the Whole, 4 February 2003**

**Policy Issues: Co-ordination and co-operation within and outside the United Nations, including non government organisations**

**Implementation of the Outcome of the Johannesburg Principles: Follow up to the Global Judges Symposium**

#### **Intervention by IUCN**

IUCN would like to congratulate the Executive Director of UNEP for taking the initiative to convene both the Global Judges Symposium, which IUCN was proud to co-sponsor, and the follow up event held last week.

IUCN would also like to express its most sincere thanks to Chief Justice Chaskalson and UNEP for inviting IUCN and others to participate in last week's meeting as Observers, which, based upon the Chief Justice's comments at yesterday's Plenary, was of immense value to him.

In this morning's session IUCN was pleased to hear the Deputy Executive Director confirm that partnerships are of "upmost importance" in this area of work and UNEP and IUCN have a long and successful history of working together in this area.

In light of this, IUCN suggests that the importance of partnerships to further progressing this work be reflected in the body of the resolution itself.

Finally, IUCN wishes to draw the Committee's attention to the need for the further development of ECOLEX, a joint initiative of UNEP, IUCN and FAO, that provides free internet based access to data bases of the three organisations covering legislation, treaties, soft law, case law and literature.

ECOLEX is specifically supported in the Montevideo III Programme.

Thank you Madam Chair.