

**INFORMATION DOCUMENT FOR 18TH SITTING OF THE
WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS**

FRIDAY 6 OCTOBER 2000

Addendum 1 to Congress paper CGR/2/2000/2

Summary of the External Review of the IUCN Programme

IUCN is a unique and respected international organisation. It gains its strength from its membership - a world wide constituency of governments and NGOs that share the common mission of the Union. It has its technical base in thousands of conservation scientists who contribute voluntarily in global Commissions. It has a competent and dedicated Secretariat, serving, driving and delivering at global, regional and local levels.

IUCN is a good and important member of the world conservation community. Its work is essential. It maintains high professional quality, and its messages are balanced.

The complexity of the Union is its most precious asset but also its major liability. The richness of ideas, views, people, cultures and political systems in IUCN's everyday world must be balanced into a working organisation.

The review team has taken this as its primary challenge. How can the Union achieve tangible results in relation to its mission? How can the Union integrate and exploit the richness of its components? How can the Union retain its diversity and at the same time be manageable?

These questions have been asked many times and in many contexts by staff and management, members and Commissions. There are many good ideas, proposals and attempted answers. U jV has beenlad ideaiten t5epglad.3052 T

We recommend a **framework** for the design and management of the Union's programme. The main ehnd