



RECOMMENDATION 6.7

CONSERVATION OF MARINE TURTLES IN THE ATLANTIC COAST OF AFRICA, INCLUDING MACARONESIA

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its Sixth Meeting (Cape Town, 10-16 November 1999)

Recalling the decisions taken during the international conference on the conservation of marine turtles of the Atlantic coast of Africa, including Macaronesia, and the signing of a memorandum of understanding on their conservation by seven Range States in Abidjan, Cote d' Ivoire in May 1999;

Recalling further the signing of the memorandum of understanding by five additional Range States during the meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals at its sixth session in Cape Town, South Africa, on 12 November 1999;

Convinced of the need for a concerted effort for the conservation of the species in the region;

Acknowledging Nigeria's acceptance of an imperative offer to coordinate conservation activities to facilitate the completion of the draft conservation plan and to also serve as focal point for the species;

The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

1. *Suggests* that a regional meeting/workshop be convened urgently and requests Range States to carry out the following activities towards the completion of the draft conservation plan:

(a) *Forward* to the focal point updated data on the conservation of the species in each Range State;

(b) *Compile* and update all technical, legislative and or financial administrative obstacles towards the implementation of the memorandum of understanding and submit such to the focal point;

2. *Further suggests* that national issues be addressed first before a regional action plan can be formulated; and

3. *Supports* the technical assistance of the Conference-appointed Councillor for marine turtles, Dr. Colin Limpus.