

Resolutions

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RESOLUTIONS

A. Concerning political activities of the European Committee for Conservation of Bryophytes (ECCB), proposed by the second working group

1. ECCB should request national authorities to include the sites listed in the European Bryophyte Site Register in the list of sites representing natural habitat types cited in Annex I of the Habitat and Species Directive, insofar as the 'important bryophyte sites' are covered by Annex I habitat types and are within the EU territory. National authorities should be requested to designate these sites as Special Areas of Conservation.
2. ECCB should ask the scientific community to propose a strategy to promote the interests of plant conservation to be undertaken through the Cohesion Fund and the Structural Fund of the EU.
3. ECCB urges that all EU and national environmental legislation concerned, for example, with maintaining the quality of air, soil and water, and with disposal of waste, should make appropriate provision for the conservation of bryophytes and other plants and that such legislation should be implemented through sectorial policies concerned with matters such as energy, agriculture, industry, transport and tourism.
4. ECCB should seek to ensure that bryophyte and other non-vascular plants are given equal weight with vascular plants and animals in conservation legislation throughout Europe and elsewhere.
5. ECCB should collaborate with the IUCN legal programme to develop strategies aimed at ensuring that the judiciary and other authorities involved in enforcing environmental legislation are adequately trained in conservation biology, with particular attention to plant conservation.
6. ECCB and the IUCN specialist group for Eastern Europe should offer to collaborate with administrative authorities, the Academies of Science in Eastern European countries and other relevant bodies, with the objective of developing the structures necessary to strengthen and enforce legislation aimed at conserving bryophytes and other plants.
7. ECCB recommends that funding agencies such as the World Bank and the EU Commission through its PHARE programme, should allocate a significant percentage of their development aid to nature conservation within their environmental programmes. It is recommended that the governments of all European countries should recognise the need to make adequate financial provision for measures designed to conserve bryophytes and other plants.
8. ECCB should collaborate with scientists from throughout Europe within its Action Plans for bryophyte conservation by offering to share expertise and in other appropriate ways.

B. Concerning Kutsa area (proposed by N. A. Konstantinova)

The Symposium of the 'European Committee for conservation of Bryophytes' (ECCB), held in 1994 in Zürich on the conservation of threatened bryophytes in Europe, requests the competent authorities to give legal protection to the territory of Kutsa area (Murmansk Province, Russia).