forest and marine resource management. Particular attention was given to the involvement of stakeholders; the impact of use on ecosystem structure and functioning; decentralization of resource management; the balance between conservation and use in multiple use areas; the balance and relationship between international, national and local objectives; and principles of adaptive management. These issues were discussed in nine thematic sessions. The conference also included a panel discussion on trade and local resource management.

The conclusions and recommendations of the conference stress, inter alia, the need to: apply the precautionary principle or adequate risk-management procedures in respect of activities that may affect the structure, composition or functioning of ecosystems; ensure proper valuation of ecosystem services and equitable sharing of benefits obtained from these services; and decentralize ecosystem management to the lowest appropriate level. They also include suggestions to improve intersectoral cooperation within and between government and management agencies and to incorporate adaptive management into policy-making and implementation.

The outcome of the conference is intended to provide input to the next meetings of SBSTTA and the CBD Conference of the Parties in 2000, as well as other relevant fora. (Harm Dotinga)

Note

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**IUCN**

**Mining Policy**

The World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) of IUCN developed a Position Statement on the topic of mining and protected areas over a 12 months period. WCPA is one of the six commissions of IUCN – the World Conservation Union – and it represents the largest global network of protected area specialists.

The Statement (see page 286) defines the position of WCPA towards mining and associated activities in protected areas and in areas adjacent to them. It is based on the IUCN protected areas management category system; it is increasingly recognised and applied around the world and a number of countries are implementing it directly in their domestic legislation.

This Position Statement was reviewed and welcomed by the IUCN Council in April 1999. The underlying principle is that any activity in a protected area has to be compatible with the overall objectives of the protected area in question. WCPA developed this Position Statement hoping that it will make a valuable contribution to issues relating to mining and conservation throughout the world. (Milena Bellini)

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**CEDE**

**Sustainable Management of Water Resources**

– The Madeira Declaration –

by Henri Smets*

**Introduction**


CEDE was founded on 19th May 1974 in Strasbourg as a non-profit organisation under Swiss law. Its aim is to study, promote and develop environmental law, in particular in the European context. Over the years, CEDE has organised many meetings and colloquia, prepared advisory notes at the request of international organisations and adopted conclusions or resolutions to summarise its