



## RESOLUTION #26

**TITLE:**  
**The Antarctic Treaty Area as a Contiguous  
Wilderness Area**



### WHEREAS

The Antarctic continent remains one of the few areas on the planet which have been relatively little impacted from direct human activities, hence possessing immense global value as one of the world's last remaining large contiguous wildernesses,

The Southern Ocean has some of the most untouched waters on Earth and thus hosts wilderness values that should be protected

#### NOTING:

That the Consultative Parties to the Antarctic Treaty have committed to the long-term protection of the intrinsic and wilderness values of the Antarctic Treaty area under the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty and its Annexes.

That Members of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources have committed to the overall conservation of the Southern Ocean within their area of jurisdiction and to allow rational use of some species only according to strict criteria.

#### AWARE

That human activities are continuing to expand, diversify and intensify in Antarctica, threatening to fragment the Antarctic wilderness into numerous smaller pieces.

### THEREFORE

The 10th World Wilderness Congress recognizes that proactive actions to limit the expansion of the human footprint in Antarctica are necessary to protect the Antarctic wilderness from erosion and fragmentation.

**RESOLVE TO** to recommend that Consultative Parties to the Antarctic Treaty:

- 1) Reaffirm their commitments to take actions to protect and manage the entire Antarctic Treaty Area as wilderness, by 2016, the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Protocol.
- 2) Adopt concrete measures to prevent the further increase of the human footprint in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean.

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