

RESOLUTION (89)10
ON THE AWARD OF THE EUROPEAN DIPLOMA TO THE
TEIDE NATIONAL PARK
(Spain)

(adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 19 June 1989
at the 427th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)

The Committee of Ministers, by virtue of Article 15. b of the Council of Europe's Statute,

Having regard to Resolution (65) 6 instituting the European Diploma;

Having regard to the proposals of the Steering Committee for the conservation and management of the environment and natural habitats (CDPE);

Having noted the agreement of the Government of Spain;

After having deliberated,

Solemnly awards the European Diploma, category A, in accordance with the Regulations for the European Diploma, to the Teide National Park; Places the aforesaid Park under the patronage of the Council of Europe until 18 June 1994, with the following recommendations:

1. The genetic resources conservation and reintroduction programme should be extended to all plant species occurring in the Park which are rare, vulnerable or endangered. The ecology of the plants, particularly their pollination and their seed dispersion mechanisms, should be studied. The optimum conditions for the germination, growth and reproduction of each of these plants should be determined, and a particular effort be made to identify pyrophilous plants, for which controlled burning could be necessary;
2. Research work on the Park's invertebrates, especially the endemic species should be stepped up. The species which play an important part in the reproduction of endemic plants, or depend on such plants for their survival, should be identified;
3. As accurate a record as possible should be kept of exotic plants occurring within the Park. Those which could constitute a threat to indigenous vegetation should be identified and eradicated;
4. Mouflon should be eliminated from the Park. The density of the rabbit population and the damage done by rabbits to vegetation should be assessed. Rabbit populations should in any case be reduced. Enclosures should be erected around certain plant communities which are particularly at risk from herbivorous animals;

5. The unsightly buildings near the upper cable-car station should be removed. The buildings of both stations should be designed to blend with the landscape. The eroded areas around the stations should be restored;
6. A limit should be set on the number of visitor groups climbing to the volcano summit from the upper cable-car station, and all such groups should be better supervised and stewarded. All paths passing close to communities of rare, vulnerable or endangered plants should be closed off;
7. The firing of artillery into the Park should be stopped;
8. The buildings unlawfully erected near the sanatorium should be demolished. If a heliotherapy centre is built, it should be located outside the central zone;
9. The possibility of creating a regional nature park incorporating the peripheral zone and area of influence should be investigated;
10. Financial assistance to the area of influence should not be discontinued;
11. More should be done to make parties of Spanish and foreign tourists visiting the island aware of the existence of the Park and its objectives;
12. Land surrounding the Park should be purchased, especially sites used at present for activities that seem likely to interfere with the work of conservation.