

IVORY COAST

- NAME Tai National Park
- MANAGEMENT CATEGORY II & IX (National Park and Biosphere Reserve)
World Heritage Site (Criteria: ii, iv)
- BIOGEOGRAPHICAL PROVINCE 3.1.1 (Guinean Rainforest)
- LEGAL PROTECTION Total. The buffer zone has the legal status of a managed Fauna Reserve.
- DATE ESTABLISHED 28 August 1972, by Presidential Decree 75-545. Reduced by 20,000ha (N'Zo Reserve) on 21 March 1973 by decree 73-132, then redefined by special decree 77-348 of 3 June 1977 which added a 20,000ha buffer round the park. The area was part of a Forest Refuge under a decree of 16 April 1926 then part of a 425,000ha Fauna Reserve under a decree of 7 August 1956. Accepted April 1978 as a Biosphere Reserve, and 1982 as a World Heritage Site.
- GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION In the south-west of Ivory Coast about 200km south of Man and 100km from the coast, between the Cavally River (which marks the western border with Liberia) and the Sassandra River on the east. In the Guiglo and Sassandra Districts. Contiguous with the 70,000ha N'Zo Faunal Reserve and 13,000ha Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve in Guinea. 5°15'-6°7'N, 7°25'-54'W.
- ALTITUDE 80-396m
- AREA 330,000ha, with a further 20,000ha of buffer zone
- LAND TENURE State property
- PHYSICAL FEATURES An area of ancient peneplain, forming a sloping area of granitic rock, broken by several inselbergs formed by volcanic intrusions, including the Niénkoué hills in the south. A large zone of schists runs from south-west to north-east across the park, dissected in places by tributaries of the watercourses which run parallel to it. Ferralitic soils of generally low fertility, but more fertile gleysoils in the south. There are two distinct climatic zones of an equatorial transitional type. Rainfall ranges from a mean of 1700mm in the north to 2200mm in the south, reaching a peak in June and with a shorter wet season in September, followed by a marked dry season from December to February. Small temperature range, 24-27°C, because of oceanic influence and the forests. High relative humidity 85-90%.
- VEGETATION The Park is the last remaining portion of the vast primary forest that once stretched across the territories of present-day Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia and Sierra Leone. This humid tropical forest has a high level of endemism - over 150 species have been identified as endemic to the Taï region. Vegetation is predominantly dense evergreen ombrophilous forest of a Guinean type, characterised by tall trees of 40-60m with massive trunks and sometimes large buttresses or stilt roots. Large numbers of epiphytes and lianes form an important element in the lower horizons: Platyserium species, Nephrolepis biserrala, Drynaria laurentu and Asphenium africanum. Two types of forest can be recognized: the poorer soils of the north and south-east support species such as the palm Eremospatha africana, ebony Diospyros mannii,

Parinari chrysophylla, Chrysophyllum perpulchrum and Chidlowia sanguinea; in the south-west the 'Sassandrian' forest is dominated the most water-demanding species of ombrophiles: ebony Diospyros and Mapania, and there are also numerous endemic species, especially in the lower part of the Cavally valley and the Meno and Hana depressions near Mont Niénokoué. Gilbertiodendron spendium occurs in the swamp forest. Plants which were thought to be extinct such as Amorphallus standtii have been rediscovered in the area.

NOTEWORTHY FAUNA

The fauna is fairly typical of the forests of West Africa, and of the 54 species of large mammal known to occur in Guinean rainforest, some 47 are found in Taï, 5 of which are threatened. Mammals include mona, white-nosed and diana monkeys Cercopithecus mona, C. nictitans, and C. diana, black-and-white, red and green colobus monkeys Colobus polykomos, C. badius and C. verus (R), sooty mangabey Cercocebus torquatus, chimpanzee Pan troglodytes (V), giant, tree, and long-tailed pangolins Manis gigantea, M. tricuspis and M. longicaudata, golden cat Felis aurata, leopard Panthera pardus (V), elephant Loxodonta africana (V), bushpig Potamochoerus porcus, giant forest hog Hylochoerus meinertzhageni, pygmy hippo Choeropsis liberiensis (V, the only viable population remaining), water chevrotain Hyemoschus aquaticus, bongo Tragelaphus euryceros, buffalo Syncerus caffer, an extraordinary assemblage of forest duikers which includes Jentink's Cephalophus jentinki (E), banded duiker or zebra antelope C. zebra, Ogilby's C. ogilbyi, black C. niger, bay C. dorsalis, yellow-backed C. [sylvicultor] and royal antelope Neotragus pygmaeus. Almost a thousand species of vertebrate have been identified.

POPULATION Two main groups of people in the area: the rural Bakoué and kroumen living on the forest edge but having only a marginal impact on the forest, and the aboriginal Baoule who are responsible for most of the forest destruction.

ZONING The National Park is almost completely surrounded by a buffer zone of about 5km width. To the north the Réserve de Faune du N'Zo acts as a buffer.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT There is a management plan for the area.

DISTURBANCES OR DEFICIENCIES There are some cultivation plots within the limits of the buffer zone and forest exploitation both within the buffer zone, and within the park itself, particularly in the north. Since independence, this region has become the principal producer of rough timber. A perimeter road designed for defining the boundaries and making protection more effective has had the reverse effect, opening up significant portions of the reserve to timber contractors, shifting cultivators and poachers (many of whom are local officials). Insufficient staff to deal with extensive poaching. Other disturbances include gold prospecting in the centre of the reserve and an influx of outsiders moving into the forest zone to grow cocoa, and an impending dam project at Soubre which could have severe effects on the site by bringing more people into the region. There is a lack of the means to carry out effective management and research has been more theoretical than management-oriented.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH The Park is the site of the MAB project on the effects of human interference within the natural forest ecosystem. In this vast research project, which is run under the auspices of the University Institute for Tropical Ecology, there is great international scientific cooperation as exemplified by the Ivory Coast, French, Italian, German and Swiss teams presently working together on various research programmes. The research project and the site have enormous potential for training and for scientific study. ORSTOM has worked here for a number of years.

SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC FACILITIES

An ecological station in Andrenisrou basin within the core zone and the Federal German team base at Fedfo camp in the buffer zone.

PRINCIPAL REFERENCE MATERIAL

Ake Assi, L. and Pfeffer, P. (1975). Inventaire Flore et Faune du Parc National de Tai, Abidjan, BDPA/SEPN.

IUCN (1982). Rapport de Mission UICN/WWF/PARCS CANADA - Côte d'Ivoire (Parc National de Tai). IUCN, Gland.

Unesco MAB Programme (1981) Tai Project Ambio 10 (2-3)

Fgu-Dronberg (1979). Etat actuel des Parcs Nationaux de la Comoé et de Tai. Tome 3. Parc National de Tai, Abidjan, GTZ.

Lauginie, F. (1975). Etude de milieu naturel et de l'environnement socio-economique du Parc National de Tai, Abidjan, BDPA/SEPN.

Roth, H.H. (1982). We all want trees - case history of the Tai National Park in Ivory Coast. Proceedings of the World National Parks Congress, 11-22 October 1982.

Other reports under IUCN/WWF Project 3052.

Biosphere Reserve nomination submitted to Unesco.

STAFF

Personnel from the Ministry of Water and Forest Resources, together with members of the University Institute of Tropical Ecology.

BUDGET

1981-85 100 million francs CFA. 1982 W.W.F. T.F Campaign grant of US\$127,350 towards the implementation of the management plan and cost of a 4 wheel drive vehicle, 5 motorbikes, a motorboat, radio telephones and other essential equipment. German technical assistance.

LOCAL PARK OR RESERVE ADMINISTRATION

Ministère des Eaux et Forêts, Direction des Parcs Nationaux et reserves analogues, B.P. V 178, Abidjan, Ivory Coast.

DATE

April 1982

COTE D'IVOIRE

NAME Parc national de Taï

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY II (National Park)
IX (Biosphere Reserve)
X (World Heritage Site - Criteria: ii, iv)

BIOGEOGRAPHICAL PROVINCE 3.01.01 (Guinean Rain Forest)

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION In south-west Côte d'Ivoire about 200km south of Man and 100km from the coast, in the districts of Guiglo and Sassandra. Between the Cavally River (which marks the western border with Liberia) and the Sassandra River on the east. 5°15'-6°07'N, 7°25'-7°54'W

DATE AND HISTORY OF ESTABLISHMENT Declared as a 'Forest and Wildlife Refuge' in 1926 by the French administration. National park status on 28 August 1972 by Presidential Decree 75-545. Reduced by 20,000ha ('Réserve de faune du N'Zo') on 21 March 1973 by Decree 73-132. Redefined by Special Decree 77-348 of 3 June 1977, which added a 20,000ha buffer zone around the park. The area was part of a forêt classée under a decree of 16 April 1926, then part of a 425,000ha réserve de faune under a decree of 7 August 1956. Accepted in April 1978 as a biosphere reserve and in 1982 as a World Heritage site. In November 1984 it was included in the IUCN list of eleven most threatened areas.

AREA 330,000ha plus 20,000ha buffer zone; contiguous to the Réserve de faune du N'Zo (73,000ha)

LAND TENURE Government

ALTITUDE 80m-623m (Mount Nienokoue)

PHYSICAL FEATURES The park comprises an ancient sloping granitic peneplain. This is broken by several inselbergs formed from volcanic intrusions, including the Niéankoué Hills in the south. A large zone of schists runs south-west to north-east across the park, dissected in places by tributaries of the watercourses which run parallel to it. The soils are ferralitic of generally low fertility but there are more fertile gleysoils in the south.

CLIMATE There are two distinct climatic zones of an equatorial transitional type. Annual rainfall ranges from a mean of 1700mm in the north to 2200mm in the south, reaching a peak in June with a shorter wet season in September, followed by a marked dry season from December to February. There is only a small temperature range of 24°C-27°C due to oceanic influence and the presence of forests. The relative humidity is high (85-90%). In 1986 the entire Côte d'Ivoire area suffered a 30% rainfall deficit, possibly due to extensive loss of forest cover.

VEGETATION The park is one of the last remaining portions of the vast primary forest that once stretched across present-day Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire,

Infobase produced by WCMC, January 1992

Liberia and Sierra Leone, and is the largest island of forest remaining in West Africa. There is a gradation from north to south, with the southern third of the park being the moistest and richest area, especially of leguminous trees. This humid tropical forest has a high level of endemism with over 150 species (16%) identified as endemic to the Taï region. The park contains some 1,300 species of higher plants of which 54% occur only in the Guinea zone. Vegetation is predominantly dense evergreen ombrophilous forest of a Guinean type characterised by tall trees (40m-60m) with massive trunks and sometimes large buttresses or stilt roots. Large numbers of epiphytes and lianes form an important element in the lower horizons including Platycerium spp., Nephrolepis biserrata, Drymaria sp. and Asplenium africanum. Two types of forest can be recognised: the poorer soils of the north and south-east support species such as palm Eremospatha africana, ebony Diospyros mannii, Parinari chrysophylla, Chrysophyllum perpulchrum and Chidlowia sanguinea; and the 'Sassandrian' forest in the south-west, dominated by water-demanding species such as ebony Diospyros spp. and Mapania spp. with numerous endemic species, especially in the lower Cavally Valley and the Meno and Hana depressions near Mont Niénokoué. Gilbertiodendron spendium occurs in the swamp forest. Plants which were thought to be extinct such as Amorphophallus staudtii have been discovered in the area. Since commercial timber exploitation ceased in 1972, the forest has recovered well.

FAUNA The fauna is fairly typical of West African forests and the park contains 47 of the 54 species of large mammal known to occur in Guinean rain forest including 5 threatened species. Mammals include: mona monkey Cercopithecus mona, white-nosed monkey C. nictitans and diana monkey C. diana, black and white colobus Colobus polykomos, red colobus C. badius and green colobus Procolobus verus (V), sooty mangabey Cercocebus torquatus, chimpanzee Pan troglodytes (V) of which there are 2,000-2,800 in Taï, giant pangolin Manis gigantea, tree pangolin M. tricuspis and long-tailed pangolin M. tetradactyla, golden cat Felis aurata, leopard Panthera pardus (T), elephant Loxodonta africana (V) which may now number only 100 individuals compared to some 1,800 in 1979, bushpig Potamochoerus porcus, giant forest hog Hylochoerus meinertzhageni, pygmy hippopotamus Choeropsis liberiensis (V) (the only viable population remaining in the Côte d'Ivoire), water chevrotain Hyemoschus aquaticus, bongo Tragelaphus euryceros, buffalo Syncerus caffer and an exceptional variety of forest duikers including Jentink's duiker Cephalophus jentinki (E), banded duiker or zebra antelope C. zebra, Ogilby's duiker C. ogilbyi, black duiker C. niger, bay duiker C. dorsalis, yellow-backed duiker C. sylvicultor and the royal antelope Neotragus pygmaeus. Forest rodents include Lophuromys sikapusi, Malacomys edwardsi and Graphiurus murinus. Also recorded in the park is Stochomys defua, which is characteristic of secondary forest. Over 230 bird species have been recorded, 143 typical of primary forest, including white-breasted guineafowl Agelastes meleagrides (E), Nimba flycatcher Melaenornis annamarulae (I), western wattled cuckoo-shrike Campephaga lobata (V), and yellow-throated olive greenbul Criniger olivaceus (V). More details about birds are given in Thiollay (1985). Almost 1,000 species of vertebrate have been identified.

LOCAL HUMAN POPULATION There are two main groups of inhabitants in the area, the rural Bakoué and Kroumen on the forest edge with only marginal impact on the forest, and the Baoule who are responsible for most of the forest destruction.

VISITORS AND VISITOR FACILITIES Visitor facilities are proposed in only one zone near Djiroutou which comprises mainly secondary forest resulting from previous forestry and agricultural activities.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND FACILITIES The park is the site of a MAB project on the effects of human interference within the natural forest ecosystem. This is a vast research project carried out under the auspices of the University Institute for Tropical Ecology, and there is international scientific cooperation as exemplified by the Ivorian, French, Italian, German and Swiss teams which have worked together on various research programmes. The site and research project have great potential for training and scientific study. ORSTOM has worked here for a number of years. There is some Ivorian research into forest termites. It is included as a project under IUCN/WWF Plants Campaign 1984-1985. In 1984 there was a Dutch team surveying the area, using an ultra-light aircraft to photograph low altitude in order to identify dying trees for use as timber. From 1979 to 1985, Swiss researchers were studying chimpanzees. There is an ecological station in Andrenisrou basin in the core zone and the Federal German team base at Fedfo camp in the buffer zone. There is also a MAB station 18km south-east of Taï village, which consists of several prefabricated houses, a communal kitchen, two well-equipped laboratories, and an electric generator. It is controlled and financed nationally and managed by two-three Ivorian personnel.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT The park is almost completely surrounded by a buffer zone, the Taï Zone de Protection, of about 5km width, which has the legal status of a managed fauna reserve. Here, agriculture is allowed, but new plantations or any settlement are theoretically prohibited. To the north, the Réserve de faune du N'Zo acts as a buffer. Taï Forest itself is under the responsibility of the Minister of Forests. There is a management plan for the area. Timber concessions have been withdrawn from the large companies. The park was put forward as an example for a pilot project to demonstrate the national conservation strategy being prepared under IUCN/WWF Project 3207. In the light of a major ministerial reorganisation in late 1983 and the abandonment of the proposed Soubré dam scheme, further work on this project has been delayed. Taï is also the focus for IUCN/WWF Project 3052, which will provide support towards implementation of the management plan and purchase of a four-wheel drive vehicle, five motorbikes, a motorboat, radio telephones, and other essential equipment.

Priority management activities under WWF Project 3207 are to increase both the size and regularity of patrols within the park; seek recognition of the park's judicial status by local courts; seek removal of illegal farmers in the buffer zone and gold miners within the park; and pursue an education and public awareness campaign. In July 1988, the authorities decreed that existing plantations within the park could continue operating for a further

three years, but that at the end of this period, they would be destroyed and no new plantations would be tolerated. The January 1988 aerial survey also revealed that bulldozed perimeter track was generally respected, whereas perimeters marked by only a 5m-wide cut were not. Proposals have been made by the Ministère des Eaux et Forêts to include the Reserve de faune du N'Zo, intact primary forest to the south and a stretch of intact forest between the Meno River and current buffer, within the national park.

MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS The principal problems are poaching, logging, farming and illegal gold-mining. Insufficient funding has led to inadequate training, equipment and research. In the northern part, 70,000ha are temporarily ceded for exploitation. Aerial surveys, completed in January 1988, have revealed increasing degradation of the forest. Although the forest cover in the interior of the park is satisfactory, the buffer zone is severely degraded in parts and the east of the park has been heavily encroached. Planters show little respect for the buffer zone, although they generally observe the official boundaries of the national park. The west of the park is less severely encroached and large areas in the south, south-west and part of the north, adjacent to the protection zone, are still untouched. It was reported in 1983 that the south-west was becoming less isolated due to construction of roads providing access for poaching and illegal felling. Encroachment by timber companies, which was previously most severe in the north, has ceased, and forest is regenerating. However, gold panners are still in evidence, largely in the watershed system of Hana and Little Hana, clearing large areas of forest in the low-lying zones along the backwaters for their prospecting digs. Slash and burn agriculture has encroached into the buffer zone. Timber exploitation remains a potential threat both in the buffer zone and in the park, particularly in the north and along the road bordering the southern boundary where extensive felling is taking place. Theoretically, this is a forêt classée, but vast blocks are being clear-felled with an enormous waste of timber. Crops such as cocoa, coffee, maize, coco yam, sweet potato and okra are then planted, with cash crops taking up more and more land. Since independence, this region has become the principal producer of rough timber. A perimeter road designed to define the boundaries and make protection more effective has had the reverse effect, opening up significant portions of the park to timber contractors, shifting cultivators and poachers. In 1977, there were said to be many elephants, conspicuous even in the buffer zone. Now only a few remain, probably due to a combination of disturbance and poaching, which has increased dramatically in recent years, due to a lack of effective protection. Species taken include elephant for ivory, monkeys and antelopes for food and crocodile and leopard for skins. The park has also been severely affected by gold panning activities in the central region. The Soubré dam scheme has now been abandoned. This would not only have affected people who would have been uprooted but would also have affected the local economy and the environment, and Taï would have suffered by the displacement and influx of people to which it would give rise. The development of a management plan by WWF/IUCN has been hampered due to a major ministerial reorganisation in late 1983 in the Côte d'Ivoire government, such that responsibility for the park has been splintered amongst several Regional Directors of Agriculture.

STAFF About 100 staff from the Ministry of Water and Forest Resources plus members of the University Institute of Tropical Ecology

BUDGET 1981-1985 - 100 million francs CFA. 1982 WWF Tropical Forest Campaign funding - US\$127,350. WWF Funding 1982/1983 (Project 3207) - US\$5,098. WWF funds totalling SFr 850,000 (US\$ 530,000) have been earmarked for the purchase of vehicles; a three-year management expert contract; boundary demarcation; and an education and awareness programme during 1988-1989. A similar sum is being provided by the government over the same period.

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION Ministère des Eaux et Forêts, Direction des Parcs Nationaux et Réserves Analogues, BP V 178, Abidjan

REFERENCES

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- Boesch, C. (1989). West African Oasis. WWF Report August/September. Pp. 11-14.
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- Guillaumet, J.L., Couturier, G. and Dosso, H. (1984). Recherche et aménagement en milieu forestier tropical humide: Le Projet Taï de Côte-d'Ivoire. Unesco, Paris.
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- Rahm, U. (1973). Propositions pour la création du parc national ivoirien de Taï. Morges, Switzerland: IUCN Occ. Paper No. 3.
- Roth, H.H. (1982). We all want trees: Resource Conflict in the Taï National Park Ivory Coast. Proceedings of the World National Parks Congress held in Bali, Indonesia. 11-22 October 1982.
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- World Heritage Nomination submitted to Unesco.

PATRIMOINE MONDIAL: CANDIDATURE

EXAMEN TECHNIQUE PAR L'UICN

1. NUMERO D'IDENTIFICATION ET NOM: 195 PARC NATIONAL DE TAI
2. SITUATION GEOGRAPHIQUE: Entre les latitudes 6° 7' 30" et 5° 15' N et les longitudes 7° 25' et 7° 54'W, en Côte-d'Ivoire. Le parc est entouré par une zone tampon.
3. CANDIDATURE PROPOSEE PAR: Le ministère des eaux et forêts.
4. DOCUMENTATION:
 - (i) Formulaire de candidature
 - (ii) Documentation supplémentaire (UICN)
 - a) Ake Assi L. and B. Bienek, M. Giordano, F. Lauginie and P. Pfeffer. 1975. Propositions d'aménagement touristique et de conservation du milieu naturel du Parc National de Tai, rapport général, 3 tomes: BDPA/SEPN, Abidjan.
 - b) FGU-KRONBERG, 1979. Etat actuel des parcs nationaux de la Comoé et de Tai ainsi que de la Réserve d'Azagny et propositions visant à leur conservation et à leur développement aux fins de promotion du tourisme. Tome 3: Parc National de Tai. GTZ, Abidjan.
 - c) Lauginie F. 1975. Etude de milieu naturel et de l'environnement socio-économique du Parc National de Tai. BDPA/SEPN, Abidjan.
 - d) Files of IUCN/WWF Project 1629: Demarcation of boundaries and the buffer zone of the Tai National Park in Ivory Coast, against illegal incursions and encroaching settlement.
 - e) Consultations: Pierre Portas, Responsable régional de l'UICN, Bureau africain; Pierre Pfeffer, Président, WWF-France; Marc Dourojeanni, Directeur, Universidad Nacional Agraria, Lima, Peru
 - f) Mission envoyée en Côte-d'Ivoire: Alain Clouttier and Antoine Dufresne (Parks Canada), du 18 mars au 3 avril 1982.

5. DESCRIPTION ET RESUME

Le parc national de Tai est la seule grande zone d'Afrique occidentale qui comprenne encore des forêts tropicales humides, formées d'arbres à feuilles persistentes. Sa faune et sa flore diffèrent considérablement de celles d'Afrique centrale; ainsi, quelques 80 espèces de plantes ne se rencontrent nulle part ailleurs. Le site est un habitat substantiel pour cinq espèces de mammifères menacées, et constitue la seule zone qui maintienne en vie des populations génétiquement viables d'hippopotames nains, d'éléphants des forêts, ainsi que trois espèces de Céphalophes. Le Tai est une réserve biosphérique, et parce qu'elle offre un terrain d'un intérêt scientifique exceptionnel, elle constitue probablement la zone d'Afrique occidentale où il a été effectué le plus de recherches.

6. INTEGRITE

S'étendant sur une superficie de 330.000 ha., le site est suffisamment grand pour procurer un habitat viable à ses plantes et à ses animaux. Cependant, une route construite à son périmètre pour définir les limites du site et assurer une protection plus efficace a plutôt eu l'effet contraire: cette voie

a ouvert d'importantes portions de la réserve aux exploitants forestiers, et a fait se déplacer des cultivateurs et des braconniers dont beaucoup sont des fonctionnaires locaux. Le site est d'autre part confronté à un certain nombre de problèmes: la prospection de l'or dans le centre de la réserve; la culture du cacao par de nouveaux-venus qui pénètrent dans la zone forestière; l'exploitation des forêts au nord-est; un projet de barrage à Soubré dont la construction imminente, à moins d'un aménagement adéquat, pourrait avoir de graves conséquences pour le site en introduisant encore davantage de population. En outre, on manque de moyens pour réaliser une gestion efficace et la recherche est plus théorique qu'appliquée aux problèmes de gestion. enfin, l'incompatibilité des programmes de conservation et des plans d'exploitation est source de conflits parmi les autorités compétentes du pays. Des consultants qui ont visité le site ont exprimé leur inquiétude quant à l'état de la forêt; selon eux, celle-ci, en tant qu'entité écologiquement viable, aura disparu d'ici cinq ou six ans à moins que des efforts considérables ne soient accomplis en matière de gestion.

Le site tel qu'il est délimité pourrait être viable grâce à une gestion rationnelle. Il serait utile, en particulier, que les efforts de recherches s'appliquent à définir les lignes directrices d'une gestion rationnelle des activités humaines dans les zones tampons.

7. COMPARAISON AVEC D'AUTRES REGIONS

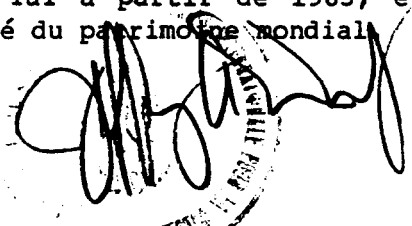
Aucune zone de forêts tropicales d'arbres à feuilles persistentes en Afrique occidentale n'est comparable à la réserve de Tai. Les forêts qui s'en rapprochent le plus se trouvent au Cameroun mais celles-ci appartiennent à une zone biogéographique bien distincte et comprennent un grand nombre d'espèces végétales et animales différentes. Un autre site de qualité, selon les critères du patrimoine mondial, est situé sur le Mont Nimba en Côte-d'Ivoire à la frontière guinéenne (la portion guinéenne a été déclarée site du patrimoine mondial en 1981). Cette zone est toutefois un habitat montagneux qui abrite un toute autre variété d'espèces.

8. EVALUATION

Le parc national de Tai, tel qu'il existe actuellement, satisfait aux critères (ii) et (iv) de la Convention. Cependant, le site est menacé d'exploitation dans maints endroits et ne survivra que s'il est géré, dans les intérêts de la population ivoirienne, comme faisant partie du programme de développement social et économique de la région toute entière.

9. RECOMMANDATION

Le parc national de Tai devrait être inscrit à la liste du patrimoine mondial. Le Comité pourrait recommander au Gouvernement de Côte-d'Ivoire de demander la nomination du parc national de Tai à la liste du patrimoine mondial en péril, et de soumettre les demandes d'assistance technique appropriées au Fonds du patrimoine mondial. L'UICN et le Fonds mondial pour la nature (WWF) prévoient de soutenir les efforts du Gouvernement visant à améliorer la gestion du parc national de Tai à partir de 1983, et seraient ravis de coopérer à cet égard avec le Comité du patrimoine mondial.



Union internationale pour la conservation
de la nature et de ses ressources

15 avril 1982