

Antarctic Convention

The EEC Commission has formally requested the Member Governments to Agree to the accession of the Community to the Antarctic Convention (see *Environmental Policy & Law*, 6 (3) 1980, p. 135).

The Convention seeks to ensure more rational management and better protection of the Antarctic marine ecosystem. A Commission, composed initially of countries which attended the Canberra meeting including the EEC, is set up under the Convention to see that these aims are respected. □

Migratory Species

On 6 May 1980, the Council referred a proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals to the Economic and Social Committee in accordance with Article 198 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.

The Committee prepared its opinion on the matter at the session held in Brussels on 24 and 25 September 1980 and the full text of the opinion was published in the *Official Journal* in November 1980 (see also Selected Documents at page 47). □

▶ Nesting black storks — a rare sight in Germany (FR). The nesting places are kept secret and regularly inspected during the breeding season to prevent wilful destruction. Photo: WWF



BOOK REVIEW

Trends in Environmental Policy and Law*

The question of how the environment can be conserved is posed throughout the world. In reply, a number of political, economic and legal tools and techniques, of administrative and judicial procedures have been used, developed or invented. Some of these tools relate to international problems; others are used in the internal sphere of states and deal with problems which are common to many countries. As the problems are common, it may be quite natural that the tools and techniques used to cope with them are also

similar, and that states learn from each other.

It is the purpose of *Trends in Environmental Policy and Law* to present and describe some of these tools and techniques. The publication does not intend to be a comprehensive overview of environmental policy and law around the world. But some elements have been singled out and are described as a rule on a comparative basis.

The first contributions deal with a fundamental problem of constitutional law and policy: is there or should there be an individual right, enforceable against the

State, for a decent environment in which to live, and how far do environmental considerations limit individual rights and, in particular, the right to property?

Further contributions deal with economic aspects of environmental protection. Who should bear the costs of environmental conservation: the community at large or the polluter?

Other contributions are concerned with basic issues of the administrative decision-making process and the review of decisions relating to the environment.

A final set of contributions deal with the international dimension of environmental conservation.

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