Nature Conservation, Sustainable Development or Protection of Mankind Mihael J. Toman, University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical faculty, Dept. of Biology, Vecna pot 111, SI – 1000 Ljubljana

ABSTRACT

Studies and researches of the interrelationships among and between different organisms, and between them and all aspects (biotic and no-biotic) of their environment are fundamental basis for nature conservation and sustainable development. Term eco- is widely spread to different human activities and therefore basically no more correctly understandable. Sustainable development became a political concept and emphasized strongly in the world conservation strategy. The main question is: Is sustainability for nature or only for mankind? It is a development that seeks to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability to meet those of the future. Anthropocentric view has too many influences in such concept. Environment protection is much more than political declarations concerning climate changes, freshwater quality, greenhouse effects, toxic substances in water and land environment and global pollution and loading as a whole. It means maintaining matter cycling and energy flow in different ecosystems without calculations what is beneficial for humans. We often understand nature in one side of the river and humans on the other side. Ethical principle of our responsibility is a key question for Nature and human survive in the future.