

of papers describing practices and progress in environmental education on a country-by-country basis, with contributions from over 40 countries; and

c) The creation of an International Environmental Education Council.

A series of papers from many regions of the world served to 'set the scene' regarding the status of, and developments in, environmental education in a number of countries, detailing practices, achievements, and problems. These provided a basis for the subsequent working-group discussions.

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THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 'LANDSCAPE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION', HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO, JAPAN, DURING 8–10 JUNE 1992

This Conference was organized in response to two previous endeavours, namely the International Conference on Landscape Planning Education, held in 1986 at Harvard University, USA, and the International Conference on Landscape Planning, held in 1990 at the University of Hannover, Germany.

The Organizing Committee stated that the objective of the present Conference was to promote systematic understanding of landscape planning that is in search of the creation and conservation of both an ecologically and visually sound regional environment in the global context.

There were 3 keynote speeches: by C. Steinitz (Harvard University), H. Kiemstedt (Hannover University), and K. Fujiwara (Yokohama National University). Theme 1 of the Conference was *Landscape Ecology and Landscape Planning*: it was addressed by T. Takenaka & Y. Ono (Hokkaido University), R.T.T. Forman (Harvard University), and M. Numata (Chiba University). Theme 2 was *Landscape Planning and National Parks*: E.H. Zube (University of Arizona) and M.L. Chabason (Ministry of Environment, France). Theme 3 was *Regional Landscape Planning for Environmental Conservation*: T. Kitamura (Kyoto University) and W.A. Schmid (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology). Theme 4 was *Regional-scale Visual Landscape Planning*: I. Nakase (Museum of Nature & Human Activities, Hyogo) and Seung-Bin Im (Seoul National University). Theme 5 was *Urban Landscape Planning*: S. Itoh (Keio University) and D. Gosling (University of Cincinnati). Theme 6 was *Creation of Environment Through Landscape Planning*: G. Seddon (University of Western Australia) and W.H. Kehm (University of Guelph). The Closing Session was entitled Discussion on Landscape-Planning and Environmental Conservation.

Landscape in a broad sense is not only based on visual appearance, but also on all our five senses as well as involving a mental component. Landscape Planning and Environmental Conservation is thus a general title which included a viewpoint of applied ecology in the human environment.

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MOUNTAIN ENVIRONMENTS IN CHANGING CLIMATES, HELD IN THE CONGRESS CENTRE, DAVOS, SWITZERLAND, DURING 12–16 OCTOBER 1992

This propitious event, organized by Dr Martin Beniston on behalf of the Swiss National Climate Programme (ProClim), was attended by more than 100 chosen participants coming mainly from European countries but also from several other mountainous ones on other continents. It was co-sponsored by the World Meteorological Organization, the American Meteorological Society, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Foundation for Environmental Conservation, and 5 appropriate Swiss concerns including the Académie Suisse des Sciences Naturelles, the Federal Institute of Forests, Snow and Avalanche Research, and the Federal Office of Environment, Forests, and Landscape.

The proceedings were organized under the following five headings:

- Studies of Mountain Climates through Observations and Models;
- Paleo-climates and Paleo-environments of the Mountain World;
- Mountain Glaciers and Hydrology in a Changing World;
- Mountain Ecosystems in the Context of Global Change; and
- Socio-economic Aspects; Decision-making.

Of Sessions there were nine, that on the Wednesday morning being subdivided after two keynote addresses and being followed by a welcome afternoon of freedom for excursions. The Chairmen of the Sessions were Professors Huw C. Davies (of ETH-Zürich), Roger A. Pielke (of Colorado State University), Brigitta Ammann (of the University of Bern), Hartmut Grassl (of the University of Hamburg), and Heinz Wanner (of the University of Bern), Drs Walter Good (of the Swiss Federal Institute for Snow and Avalanche Research), and Martin Beniston (until lately Director of ProClim, and who also chaired the subsequent Session of which the expected Chairman failed to arrive), Professor Antoine S. Bailly (of the University of Geneva), and Dr Martin Price (of the University of Oxford).

The disappointment of non-arrival of an unusual number of listed speakers had, nevertheless, the advantage of leaving more time for discussion than would otherwise have been available. So we felt that nobody was frustrated or left unhappy, although several of the presentations (every one of which was in English) were too rapid-fire for some non-specialists to follow — especially when accompanied by a quick succession of complicated graphs. However, they should be meaningful in published form.

Memorable keynote or other papers included: Land-use Changes and Regional Climate Effects in Mountain Ranges, by R.A. Pielke; The Alps Under Pressure by Local, Regional and Global Changes, by H. Grassl; Dendrochronological and Glacier Evidence During the Last Millennium in the Southern Canadian Rockies, by B. Luckman; Impacts of a Climatic Change Induced by the Doubling of the Atmospheric CO₂ Concentrations on Water Budgets, by B. Schädler & F. Bultot; Should Mountain Communities be Concerned about Climatic Change?, by M. Price; Influence of Climatic Factors on the Vegetation of East Greenland, by F.H. Schwarzenbach; Expected Latitudinal Variations in Montane Ecosystem Change: Examples of High Latitudes, by P.

Halpin; Designing Forest Ecosystems, by John Innes; Towards a Functional Network of Mountain Protected Areas, by C.J. Martinka; Environmental Perception, Climate Change, and Tourism, by A.S. Bailly; and Changing Climates and Hydro-electricity in New Zealand, by B. Fitzharris.

At the terminal 'Open discussion based on the presentations at the Conference: Future Outlook', the hope was expressed that a selection of the best papers presented at, or submitted to, the Conference would be published as a symposial book. Finally our suggestions that this might advantageously be regarded as the first of an ongoing series of such conferences on pressing mountain topics, and that countries with major mountain ranges and problems might well prove the most appropriate and likely-to-be-keen hosts, were debated and widely approved.

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Important Prospect

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH RADIOLOGY, TO BE HELD AT GANDHI MEDICAL COLLEGE, BHOPAL, INDIA, DURING 22–24 OCTOBER 1993

In view of the widespread rapid industrialization and urbanization, protection of the life and health of workers has assumed increased significance. The present Conference will provide an opportunity to all sections of the people particularly involved — particularly medical practitioners, industrial plant managers, and research workers — to exchange views on experiences gained in the field of occupational health.

The International Radiation Protection Association recently announced the establishment of an International Commission on Non-ionizing Radiation, *i.e.* electromagnetic fields and radiation, and lasers ultraviolet infrared radiation both ultrasound and infrasound, which are widely used in industries and diagnostic procedures. In this Conference, therefore, it is proposed to have a special session on Radiology (particularly on its role in evaluation of occupational diseases), with wide-ranging discussions on various types of radiation and how they may affect the health of workers. Potential health-hazards from occupational exposure will also be discussed.

The other important topics for discussion will include: Environmental Pollution and Health Risks, Occupational Diseases' Diagnostic Techniques, Workers' Health and Safety, Occupational Lung Diseases, Occupational Cancer, Occupational Dermatitis, Education and Training in Occupational Health, Accidents and Injuries at Work, and Environment Issues in Health.

The Conference will also include a poster session, equipment demonstrations, and field trips to important industrial units. More information about this Conference may be obtained from the undersigned.

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Important Prospect

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 'ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN THE COMMONWEALTH', TO BE HELD IN THE UNIVERSITY, BRADFORD, ENGLAND, UNITED KINGDOM, DURING 18–23 JULY 1993

The British Commonwealth represents a group of 50 nations with over 1,000 million people — about one-fifth of the world's total population — having different cultural backgrounds, life-styles, languages, and a vast range of natural resources. These vary from the rain-forests of South America and the Caribbean, to the Mediterranean coasts and high Himalayan mountains. But despite their physico-geographical differences, Commonwealth nations share a strong interest in actively working towards the conservation of their natural resources. This interest is conspicuous in both the commitments set in the Langkawi Declaration on the Environment (1989) and in the steps which all the involved countries are taking towards the conservation of their local environment.

This resolve is effectively cemented by the practically universal use of English as the common language, which has latterly become the dominant one in most scientific circles throughout the world.

Based on the need to develop further environmental education in Commonwealth countries, the University of Bradford (England) is cooperating with various organizations concerned with environmental and educational issues in the Commonwealth, with a view to hosting the above conference in Bradford. The institutions under the auspices of which the event is being organized are: the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Kingdom Department for Education, the United Kingdom Overseas Development Administration, the United Kingdom Department of Environment, the British Council, the Commonwealth Foundation, the Commonwealth Trust, the Commonwealth Institute, Commonwealth of Learning (a Canadian-based organization dedicated to the promotion of education), the Commonwealth Secretariat, and the Commission of the European Communities. Also interested is the Foundation for Environmental Conservation, situated in Geneva, Switzerland, which has been one of the world's leading centres of environmental concern and remedy of recent decades.

The Conference, which is to be opened by the British Minister for Overseas Development, is aimed at catalysing and promoting the systematic development of environmental education programmes in Commonwealth countries. Its specific objectives are:

- to enable the exchange of experiences among governmental and nongovernmental specialists and practitioners who are active in the field of environmental education in Commonwealth countries;
- to stimulate contacts among those working in environmental education with a view to the establishment of working links, networks, and the wide promotion of successful practices; and
- to discuss long-term strategies for the development of environmental education in the Commonwealth.

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