

## C. THE GLOBAL COMMONS

## 9. Oceans

*40-years' goal:*—To ensure, as an indicator of the health of the oceans and of the wise management of global resources, that the populations of whales and dolphins are restored to at least half the levels at which they stood before the human onslaught.

*10-years' objective:*—Implementation of global conservation measures leading to significant recovery of whale and dolphin species now severely depleted by human activity.

## 10. Atmosphere

*40 years' goal:*—To end the threat posed by increasing levels of atmospheric pollution to the health of people and ecosystems and the stability of the Earth's climate.

*10-years' objective:*—The ending of all non-medical uses of chlorofluorocarbons, the development of national energy strategies to slow the rate of increase in carbon dioxide from fossil-fuel combustion, and the adoption of agreements that will substantially reduce emissions of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, and the hydrocarbons incriminated in the production of oxidants.

## 11. Antarctica

*40-years' goal:*—To ensure that Antarctica remains a continent unsullied by pollution and misuse, and open to people of all nations for purposes of peaceful scientific exploration and the enjoyment of the immense natural beauty of the region.

*10-years' objective:*—Adoption by the world community of an Antarctic Conservation Strategy as a foundation for the wise management of the world's last great wilderness for the benefit of the entire global community.

## D. POLITICAL COMMITMENT

## 12. Political commitment

*40-years' goal:*—To unite the world against the common threat of global environmental degradation by providing strong, coordinate action at the regional, national, and local, levels.

*10-years' objective:*—Adoption of National Conservation Strategies or equivalent plans in all countries, backed by the development of infrastructure, community action, and due training, to put them into effect.

IUCN SECRETARIAT  
Avenue du Mont-Blanc  
CH-1196 Gland  
Switzerland.

### Increasing the Flow of Scientific Literature to the Third World

Scientists cannot function without a steady supply of books, journals, and other forms of information 'exchange'. It is of fundamental importance in the application of science and technology to social, economic, and cultural, development, and to the well-being of the Earth, that every country have at least one open library that receives current books and journals in science and technology. While it may seem rather obvious to research workers, this simple message is not necessarily accepted by funding agencies, and needs to be emphasized time and again. Such a statement was reaffirmed at an international meeting on scientific literature for the Third World, held during 31 October–2 November 1988, in Trieste, Italy, at the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), and organized by ICTP, the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), and ICSU Press.

The sixty participants, who represented a wide range of publishers, scientific societies, book and journal donation programmes, and funding agencies, agreed to increase efforts to supply key Third World institutions with important scientific literature, both current and archival. One way to do this is to follow the excellent example of the ICTP's own donation programme, recently expanded beyond the field of physics in cooperation with TWAS.

Other programmes reviewed at Trieste are being run now by the American Association for the Advancement of Science for sub-Saharan Africa, the Association of Geoscientists for International Development, the International

Union of Geological Sciences, the Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists, the American Chemical Society, the European Physical Society, and many others. However, these activities take place without coordination and without a regular way to exchange ideas and experiences, for example on sources of materials and funds, and on the best ways to identify recipients and evaluate the results. To this end the participants agreed to form an Information Network on Scientific and Technological Literature for Developing Countries (ST-LITNET), which will link interested groups.

In his opening remarks to the Workshop, Professor Abdus Salam, ICTP Director and President of TWAS, proposed a new programme to provide a limited number of active Third World institutions with subscriptions to key scientific journals, with the costs to be covered by various granting agencies.

To encourage such a programme, TWAS has announced the annual allocation of US \$ 250,000 to book and journals programmes. There is a possibility that the same amount will also be provided by the ICTP for this purpose. For further information please contact:

H.R. DALAFI, Professor  
International Centre for Theoretical Physics  
P.O. Box 586  
34100 Trieste  
Italy.

### Lanzarote—a Note on Its Conservation

Lanzarote (795 km<sup>2</sup>, population 42,000), the most easterly of the Canary Islands, is administratively part of Las Palmas Province of Spain, although it lies some 137 km off the north-west coast of Africa (at 29° 00' N; 13° 40' W). A major portion of the island consists of a national park of jagged volcanic peaks, extensive lava beds, and volcanic springs, surrounding Montañas del Fuego (Fire Mountain), the last major eruption of which took place in 1730—

followed by lesser volcanic eruptions lasting until 1825. Today, there is still sufficient thermal heat for cooking at the park restaurant. This can be reached by motor car or, for those who prefer, by camel!

Drives along the road that circles through the national park are controlled: visitors must either leave their vehicles in the car park by the restaurant, and be taken on by coach, or else they have to drive in convoy, accompanied