

BACK-TO-OFFICE-REPORT

Pollution Control and other measures to Protect Biodiversity in Lake Tanganyika (RAF/92/G32). Special Studies: 'Pollution of International Waters', 'Sediment Discharge and Its Consequences' and Related biodiversity studies

Draft back to office report for visit by G. Patterson to Brussels 25 March 1997 - Natural Resources Institute (NRI)

Separate copies

A. Menz (PCU)
K. Banister (PCU)
T. Bostock (NRI)
B. Fisknes (NRI)
B. Blake (NRI)
T. Bailey -Watts (IFE)
I. Payne (MRAG)
R. Duck (Dundee)
K. West

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 To consult with Pierre-Denis Plisnier. He is part of a consortium (headed by J. Klerkx at the Royal Museum of Central Africa, Tervuren) who are directing a project on climatic change using , principally, sediment cores from Lake Tanganyika. In view of the overlapping requirements of this and the LTBP project it was felt that a sharing of resources would be appropriate.

1.2 K. Martens of the Royal Museum of Belgium, co-ordinator of the 'Species in Ancient Lakes' group specialising in flora and fauna of Lake Tanganyika was also met. The aim of this meeting was to develop the work plan for the biological impacts part of the Special study on 'Sediment Discharge and Its Consequences'. It is envisaged that Koen Martens (along with K. Irvine of University of Dublin) will participate in this work.

1.3 K. West in Brussels (to attend to Ph.D. matters) also sat in on these meetings.

2. SUMMARY OF VISIT

2.1 The discussion with Plisnier ranged widely but was agreed that GP would produce a small document suggesting a slot for the next coring cruise of the Tanganyika Explorer (Nov. 97-March 98?). Interested parties from within and without the LTBP could then request a proportion of time and effort

they would wish for the cruise and preferred dates. This should prove cost effective.

2.2 In addition we discussed the archived material available at Tervuren and it would appear to be appropriate to contract someone for a 2-3 week period to compile data from the hydrological and meteorological records that exist there (from Burundi and Zaire).

2.3. Discussed sediment trap work. Though no projects active in the lake area are sure they can afford to do this well, there are a number of groups interested in this kind of work and a cost sharing programme would appear to be an option.

2.4 Plisnier is also likely to be an instructor on the IDEAL training programme commencing in 1998. A meeting will be held in Arizona in April to discuss this programme.

2.5 Members of the SIAL group are meeting today to discuss the Biodiversity workplan and will report as soon as possible on this meeting

2.6 GP also met with a Burundian Limnologist working in Brussels - name Pascal Ntahompagaze. GP has his (high quality) CV which shows both scientific and management skills. Perhaps should be invited to meet the Gaspards when they are in UK.

3. PRINCIPAL ACTION POINTS

3.1 GP to circulate letter soliciting cruise requirements for end of year.

3.2 GP to set up contract with (student?) to do data archive work in Belgium and possibly UK (Inst. of Hydrology etc.)

3.3 GP to send Ntahompagaze's CV to those who request.

3.4 GP to suggest to A. Cohen that K. West attend the IDEAL meeting in Arizona.

3.5 GP to co-ordinate a joint approach to sediment trap work

G. Patterson
26 March 1997