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ARCTIC SCIENCE COMMITTEE

Dear Sir,

During the XIX SCAR-meeting (Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research) the Precident of SCAR - Dr. J. Zumberge, USA - invited representatives of those nations present being active in Arctic research to an informal meeting.

The intention of the meeting was to discuss existing mechanisms for international cooperation in Arctic research. A list of those who attended the meeting is enclosed.

The conclusion of the meeting was a general interest to establish closer contact between scientists from countries being active in Arctic research.

Existing organizations were discussed, but none was found to fulfil the objectives discussed.

There were several suggestions how to form an organization or committee for this purpose - among them "A SCAR for the Arctic" was mentioned. However, realising that the Arctic is politically very different from Antarctica, it would be vise that the Arctic rim nations (USSR, USA, Canada, Greenland/Denmark and Norway) consulted and possibly agreed on some terms of reference for the organization, before any further step is taken. Being the advocat for this view, I was given the task to contact prominent scientific representatives of other Arctic rim nations to get their opinion on the need for an organization of this kind, ideas on terms of reference, form of organization etc.

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./. In a separate enclosure I have given some preliminary and personal opinions. You are most welcome to disagree as to the contents, my intention is to give something to stimulate further thinking and help you consider the vital question: Would your country be interested to participate?

After this consulting between the Arctic rim nations, it was agreed to call a meeting to establish the terms of reference, the organization and to agree upon its constitution and rules. The meeting would be more efficient if a draft proposal can be worked out on beforehand. If you take an interest in this question: please feel free to send me your suggestions.

If you as a representative of an Arctic rim nation have certain conditions or limitations to be put on this new organization's activities, that would be especially helpful to know.

It was also suggested that a contact group should be established with one representative from each of the Arctic rim nations. The task would be to advice on the preparation and organizing of the next meeting. Zumberge, USA and Rogne, Norway volunteered to be the national representative in this group. As to the other nations would you select a suitable person for this purpose and inform me about name and address?

I hope you will give this question due consideration and send me an answer, preferably within 1 October this year.

Yours sincerely

Odd Rogne

Director

Encl.

International Arctic Research Activities Teak Room, Kona Kai Club 25 June 1986 1 - 4 P.M.

Expected Participants

Professor K. Birkenmajer Instytut Nauk Geologicznych PAN ul. Senacka 3 31-002 Krakow POLAND

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Professor Anders Karlqvist The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences + Professor Bert Bolin Box 50005 5-10405 Stockholm SWEDEN

Professor Eugeny S. Korotkevich Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute Fontanka 34 Leningrad 192104 U.S.S.R.

Dr. Claude Lorius CNRS Laboratoire de Glaciologie et Geophysique De 1'Environnement BP 96 - 38402 - Saint Martin D'Here Cedex FRANCE

Ms. Riitta Mansukoski VTT/RAT Betonimiehenknja 3 02150 ESTOO, FINLAND

Professor Takesi Nagata University of Tokyo Member of the Science Council of Japan 7-22-34, Roppongi Minato-ku Tokyo 106 JAPAN

Mr. Odd Rogne Director Norsk Polarinstitutt 1330 Oslo Lufthavn P.O. Box 158 NORWAY

Dr. Peter Wilkniss Division of Polar Programs National Science Foundation Washington, D.C. 20550 U.S.A.

Dr. James H. Zumberge Chairman, U.S. Arctic Research Commission 3500 S. Figueroa Los Angeles, CA. U.S.A.

Sweden

Dr. Igor Zetikov USSR

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