



NC 2/68

INTERNATIONAL BIOLOGICAL PROGRAMME

SECTION PCT

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Room of the Australian Academy of Science at 2.00 p.m. on 15 November 1967.

Present: Professor R.L. Specht (Convener), Dr. F.J. Bergersen, Dr. J.W. McGarity and Dr. R.J. Swaby.
Dr. D.J. Greenland, Dr. A.E. Martin Professor W.V. Macfarlane.

Dr. F.H.W. Morley and Mr. R.A. Perry were present by invitation.

Apologies were received from Dr. M.F. Day, Professor J.D. Ovington, Professor R.O. Slatyer, Professor D.E. Tribe.

Minutes

- 1 Minutes of Working Groups PT (Forestry), PT (Nitrogen Transformation) PT (Decomposer Cycle), PP (Photosynthesis), PP (Nitrogen Fixation), and CT (Conservation), all of which met on the morning of 15 November 1967, were tabled (see attached minutes).
- 2 Working Group PT (Herbivores) did not meet on 15 November.

Dr. Morley indicated that Australia might better contribute to the objectives of I.B.P. by supporting some work on the wild ruminants in parts of Africa, rather than fostering additional studies on Australian fauna.

Professor Macfarlane considered that it may be better for Australia to concentrate its attention nearer home - for instance, on say the Javanese (Priangan) sheep which were imported 20 years ago to the Bulolo-Lae region of New Guinea and which crossed with some European breeds.

It was decided that Sir Otto Frankel and Professor Specht discuss future activities of this Working Group with Professor Tribe as soon as he returns from Thailand.

3 Arid Rangelands Research Programme

Mr. Perry informed the Committee that the C.S.I.R.O. had recently initiated an Arid Rangelands Research Programme. Research centres will be established at Alice Springs and at Deniliquin and later at two other centres. It is intended to establish an Advisory Committee to develop the Programme as a co-operative venture between C.S.I.R.O., Universities and other interested bodies.

4 Co-ordination Section PCT Project in New Guinea

It was decided that Section PCT should prepare a co-ordinated research project to be centred on New Guinea (probably at Goroka in association with Section HA, I.B.P.). Professor Specht will contact various interested organisations in New Guinea and Australia, will consult with Working Groups, and formulate a proposal for submission to the National Committee of I.B.P. early in 1968.