

mab notes

The Man and the Biosphere Program completed its 10th year in the summer of 1981, and a special Scientific Conference/Exhibit and International Coordinating Council (ICC) meeting were held in Paris in September to mark the occasion. Attendees from U.S. MAB were Bill Gregg, Frank Golley, Ariel Lugo, Paul Baker, Ed Fernald, Bill Roseborough, Don King and Jay Blowers.

At the same time, an informal meeting was held on preparation for the 1983 Biosphere Reserve Congress, to be convened by UNESCO and jointly sponsored by UNEP and UNESCO in Minsk, in the Soviet Union. The main theme will be the conservation of natural areas and the genetic material they contain (MAB Project 8). Major emphasis will be given to ecosystem conservation, baseline research, and their implementation in the international network of biosphere reserves. More detailed information can be had from Bill

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MAB 8 Paper Delivered

At the 32nd Annual Meeting of the American Institute of Biological Sciences at Bloomington, Indiana, in August 1981, Gregg and Vernon C. Gilbert presented a paper on "Development of the Biosphere Reserve Network Under the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Program." The paper describes the purpose of MAB Project 8 – to promote the conservation of the world's biological and genetic diversity by providing the scientific basis for establishing and managing protected natural areas . . . "a key part of which is the establishment of a global network of biosphere reserves, to provide secure protection for self-sustaining ecosystems representative of each of the world's biomes and equally secure sites for long-term ecosystem research and related education, demonstration, and training activities." The network presently consists of 193 areas in 50 countries.