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NEWS-LETTER OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF BOTANISTS  
NUUSBRIEF VAN DIE SUID-AFRIKAANSE GENOOTSAP VAN PLANTKUNDIGES

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S.A.A.B. ANNUAL CONGRESS, CAPE TOWN, JANUARY 1984: The first circular announcing details of the congress, which will be held from 22 to 27 January 1984 at the University of Cape Town, has been sent out recently to all members. It is proposed that the congress should take the form of a number of plenary and parallel sessions on specific themes. The first of the symposia will be physiological covering nitrogen metabolism. Depending on the funding available, it is hoped to bring two or three overseas participants to the meeting. It is planned to hold a single day mid-week excursion on Wednesday 25 January and a single day post-congress tour on Saturday 28th January. These tours will be to places of considerable botanical interest located on the Cape Peninsula. The S.A.A.B. Annual Dinner will take place on Friday 27 January. Those intending to deliver papers or submit posters should let the organisers know before 31 July. Accommodation will be available at a university residence if booked by 30 September 1983 at the university rate of R25 per day all inclusive. A wide range of social functions is being planned. The organising secretary is Mrs. M.L. Jarman, c/o Department of Botany, University of Cape Town, Private Bag, Rondebosch, 7700.

SUID-AFRIKAANSE RAAD VIR NATUURWETENSKAPLIKES: Die aantal aansoeke ontvang om registrasie kragtens artikel 18 van die Wet op Natuurwetenskaplikes, 1982 het die Raad se stoutste verwagtinge oortref! Tot en met 31 Maart 1983 het reeds meer as 2 500 persone hul aansoeke ingedien. Hierdie reaksie getuig onteenseglik van 'n prysenswaardige entoesiasme vir die bevordering van die doelstellings wat in die Wet opgesluit lê.

Die statistiek ten opsigte van aansoeke wat tot en met die jongste vergadering van die Raad op 23 Maart 1983 oorweeg en goedgekeur is, is nogal insiggewend:

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Getal persone geregistreer tot en met 23 Maart 1983: | 897   |
| Manlik   | : 849 |
| Vroulik  | : 48  |
| Afrikaanssprekend                                    | : 546 |
| Engelssprekend                                       | : 351 |

|                               |         |   |     |
|-------------------------------|---------|---|-----|
| <u>Ouderdomsverspreiding:</u> | 70+     | : | 15  |
|                               | 60 - 69 | : | 46  |
|                               | 50 - 59 | : | 194 |
|                               | 40 - 49 | : | 320 |
|                               | 30 - 39 | : | 265 |
|                               | 20 - 29 | : | 57  |

|                                  |           |   |     |
|----------------------------------|-----------|---|-----|
| <u>Geografiese Verspreiding:</u> | Kaap      | : | 162 |
|                                  | Natal     | : | 61  |
|                                  | O.V.S.    | : | 55  |
|                                  | Transvaal | : | 608 |
|                                  | Elders    | : | 11  |

Kwalifikasieverspreiding:

|                          |   |     |
|--------------------------|---|-----|
| B.Sc. (3 jr)             | : | 24  |
| B.Sc. (4 jr)/B.Sc. Hons. | : | 138 |
| M.Sc.                    | : | 249 |
| Ph.D./D.Sc.              | : | 486 |

Dissiplineverspreiding

|                             |   |     |
|-----------------------------|---|-----|
| Chemiese Wetenskappe        | : | 227 |
| Fisiese Wetenskappe         | : | 94  |
| Aardwetenskappe             | : | 171 |
| Plantkundige Wetenskappe    | : | 103 |
| Dierkundige Wetenskappe     | : | 68  |
| Wiskundige Wetenskappe      | : | 47  |
| Planteproduksie             | : | 103 |
| Diereproduksie              | : | 60  |
| Mikrobiologiese Wetenskappe | : | 24  |

Beroepsektorale Verspreiding:

|                |   |     |
|----------------|---|-----|
| Universiteite  | : | 224 |
| Technikons     | : | 11  |
| Staatsdiens    | : | 290 |
| Statutêre Rade | : | 130 |
| Privaatsektor  | : | 228 |
| Afgetree       | : | 14  |

Professional Advisory Committees: Most of the Professional Advisory Committees have commenced with their activities and are gearing themselves to furnish SACNAS with their

- . recommendations regarding the practical experience requirements for registration purposes
- . preliminary proposals regarding the work of a natural scientific nature which should be reserved for natural scientists in terms of the Act.

The latter exercise is a particularly difficult and sensitive one. At PAC level all learned societies would have to be consulted before preliminary proposals could be formulated. SACNAS, in turn, will consolidate these preliminary proposals into one comprehensive document and submit the latter to all interested organisations and persons in both the private and public sectors for comment and discussion before approaching the authorities to process the recommendations as required by Act 55 of 1982. It is hoped that at the time SACNAS's recommendations are officially published in the Government Gazette for comment, the greatest degree of consensus would already have been reached with all those who could possibly be affected thereby.

Die Adviserende Onderwyskomitee: Die komitee het sy eerste vergadering op 11 Maart 1983 gehou waartydens dr. R.R. Arndt (vise-president van die W.N.N.R.) en prof. P.J. Zietsman (Dekaan van die Fakulteit Wis. en Natuurkunde, Universiteit van Pretoria) tot Voorsitter en onder-Voorsitter onderskeidelik verkies is. Dié vergadering is hoofsaaklik gewy aan 'n bespreking van die AOK se funksies soos neergelê in die Wet. 'n Dagbestuur is aangewys om na roetine sake om te sien en om, vir voorlegging en goedkeuring deur die AOK, daardie gedeelte van SARN se aksieplan wat op die werksaamhede van die AOK betrekking het, te formuleer en sperdatums vir afhandeling voor te stel.

Annual Fee 1983/84: At its meeting held on 23 March 1983 SACNAS decided that, for the financial year 1983/84, an annual fee of R40,00 would apply to all persons registered, whether or not they are members of recognised Natural Scientists' Associations. This decision arose from the fact that the Government Notice setting out the requirements for recognition of Natural Scientists' Associations has not as yet been published.

Ledelyste van die AOK en PAK's: Daar is verneem dat baie natuurwetenskaplikes graag wil weet wie die persone is wat op die AOK en die verskillende PAK's dien.

Die Adviserende Onderwys Komitee:

|                                 | <u>Lid</u>            | <u>Plaasvervangende Lid</u>  |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| Rhodes Universiteit             | Prof. B.R. Allanson   | Prof. G. de Jager            |
| Universiteit van die O.V.S.     | Prof. B.J.V. Botha    | Prof. D.G. Roux              |
| Universiteit van Fort Hare      | Prof. J.M. Brand      | Prof. J.J. Turkstra          |
| Universiteit van Stellenbosch   | Prof. J.A. de Bruyn   | Prof. H.A. Louw              |
| Universiteit van die Noorde     | Prof. W.J. Els        | Prof. D.R. Jansen van Vuuren |
| Universiteit van Port Elizabeth | Prof. A. Goosen       | Prof. H.C. Snyman            |
| Universiteit van Natal          | Prof. W.A. Hawksworth | Prof. J.H. Swart             |
| VISTA                           | Prof. H.J. le Roux    | -                            |

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| Universiteit van Suid-Afrika              | Prof. G. McGillivray   | Prof. E.C. Reynhardt  |
| Universiteit van Wes-Kaapland             | Mnr. M.C. Mehl   | Prof. C.J. Leonard  |
| Universiteit van die Witwatersrand        | Prof. H.E.H. Paterson  | Prof. M.A. Raath  |
| Potchefstroomse Universiteit vir CHO      | Prof. A.J. Reinecke  | Prof. J.C. Geertsema  |
| Universiteit van Durban-Westville         | Prof. A.L. Smit  | Prof. E. Malan  |
| Universiteit van Zoeloeland               | Prof. B. Spoelstra   | Prof. J.P. v.d. Merwe   |
| Mediese Universiteit van Suidelike Afrika | Prof. W.J. Strydom   | Prof. J. Booyens  |
| Universiteit van Kaapstad                 | Prof. N.J. v.d. Merwe  | Prof. C.G. Troskie  |
| Randse Afrikaanse Universiteit            | Prof. D.H. Wiid  | Prof. J. Geldenhuys   |
| Universiteit van Pretoria                 | Prof. P.J. Zietsman  | Prof. D.J.J. Potgieter  |
| Nasionale Opvoeding                       | Dr. R.R. Arndt<br>(Vise-President WNNR)  | -   |
| Nasionale Opvoeding                       | Dr. D.J.J. van Rensburg (Direkteur: Technikon, Pretoria)   | Dr. H. Koen<br>(Adj.-Direkteur: Technikon Pretoria)   |
| Binnelandse Aangeleenthede                | Mnr. C.C. Marx<br>(Eerste Vakadviseur)   | Mnr. W.A. Schroeder<br>(Inspekteur van Onderwys)  |
| Onderwys en Opleiding                     | Dr. J.A. v. Huyssteen<br>Dr. J.K. Basson<br>(Asst.-Hoof= bestuurder: Kernkor)<br>Dr. J.E. Erasmus<br>(Hoofdirekteur Koördinerings Dept. Landbou)<br>Mnr. F. le Riche<br>(Sentrachem) | Mnr. D.A. Scholtz<br>Dr. A. Brink<br>(SASOL)<br>Dr. H.S. Steyn<br>(Dept. Nas. Opvoeding)<br>Dr. J.S.V. van Zijl (Direkteur Nas. Fisiese Navorsings= laboratorium: WNNR) |

Die Professionele Adviserende Komitee: Die biologiese vakke (Dierkunde uitgesluit) is: Plantkundige wetenskappe:

Prof. N. Grobbelaar  
(Hoof: Departement Plantkunde)

Dr. D.J.B. Killick

Dr. R.A. Lubke  
(Departement Plantkunde)

Prof. D. Mitchell  
(Departement Plantkunde)

Universiteit van Pretoria

Navorsingsinstituut vir Plantkunde  
(Departement van Landbou)

Rhodes Universiteit

Universiteit van Kaapstad

Prof. R.N. Pienaar  
(Departement Plantkunde)                      Universiteit van Natal

Dr. J.G.C. Small  
(Departement Plantkunde)                      Universiteit van Pretoria

Prof. J.J.A. van der Walt  
(Departement Plantkunde)                      Universiteit van Stellenbosch

Plantproduksie

Dr. B.W. Strydom                      (Voorsitter)                      Navorsingsinstituut vir Plantbeskerming

Prof. R.A. Barnard  
(Dept. Grondkunde Landboufakulteit)                      Universiteit van Pretoria

Dr. A.J. Aucamp                      Dept. van Landbou (Oos-Kaapstreek)

Dr. W.J. Jooste                      Potchefstroomse Universiteit vir CHO

Prof. S.H. Lombard  
(Dept. Voedselwetenskap)                      Universiteit van Pretoria

Mnr. J.C. Louw                      Transvaalstreek, Privaatsak X180, Pretoria

Mnr. J.P. van Zyl  
(Houtafdeling)                      SABS

Mikrobiologiese Wetenskappe

Dr. W.B. Strydom                      (Voorsitter)                      Navorsingsinstituut vir Plantbeskerming

Dr. F.T. Robb  
(Dept. Mikrobiologie)                      Universiteit Kaapstad

Dr. D.W. Verwoerd  
(Seksie Molekulêre Biologie)                      N.I. Veeartsenykunde Onderstepoort

Dr. W.H. Holzapfel  
(Dept. Mikrobiologie)                      Universiteit van Pretoria

Dr. N.P. Ferreira  
(Mikrobiologiese Navorsingsgroep)                      WNNR

Dr. H.J.J. van Vuuren  
(Dept. Mikrobiologie)                      Universiteit van Stellenbosch

S.A.G.P. NOORD-TRANSVAALSE TAK: Die tak het besluit om vanjaar 'n naweekkamp te onderneem. Daar is besluit op Swadini-natuurreservaat aangesien die personeel aldaar 'n herbarium van die plante op die natuurreservaat op die been wil bring. Dit sou lede dan die geleentheid bied om die bosveldplantegroei beter te leer ken en plante vir die nuwe herbarium te versamel. Die kamp is gedurende die naweek van 25-27 Februarie 1983 onderneem.

Ons het die kampterrein eers laat the Vrydagaand bereik en nadat geëet en nes= geskop is, het sommige lede van die groep eers in die swembad gaan afkoel. Saterdagoggend was ons vroeg in die veld. Ons het in drie groepe verdeel wat elk 'n opname van 'n ander deel in die reservaat moes maak. Ten spyte van die droogte, was die veld in 'n redelike toestand en kon ons baie fertiele materiaal versamel. Twee groepe was weer teen ongeveer 13h00 terug by die kamp. Die lede van hierdie twee groepe het die res van die dag gewy aan die pers van die

plante nadat sommige eers weer lafenis in die swembad gevind het. Die derde groep het eers teen ongeveer 18h00 by die kamp aangekom - gelukkig met gepakte perse!

Die hoogtepunt van die naweek was sekerlik die bootrit op die Blyderivierdam Sondagoggend, toe ons ongeveer 50 meter vanaf die kaai sonder brandstof gaan staan het! Onder aanvoering van "kaptein" Crosby het die span roeiers ons 'n uur later by die kaai besorg.

Die kamp is deur 12 plantkundiges, 4 nie-plantkundiges en 4 kinders bygewoon. Hierdie kamp het sekerlik ook gesorg vir 'n paar verrassings!

Almal wat die kamp meegemaak het, is dit eens dat dit baie aangenaam was. Ons dank aan dr. Van Greuning en Mickey asook ons sekretaresse wat al die reëlings getref het vir die kamp.

HABITAT COUNCIL: The Council's Executive Committee visited the Wilderness/George/Knysna/Plettenberg Bay area from 13 to 15 April. Representatives of some of the member organisations accompanied the Committee and attended the general meeting held at Knysna. This visit was a unique opportunity to see this beautiful part of our country and to learn more about the environmental problems experienced there. The meeting held in the Knysna Town Hall discussed the environmental aspects of the Guide Plan for the Wilderness-Knysna-Plettenberg Bay area soon to be released by the Department of Planning.

The Executive meeting was held at the Beacon Isle Hotel and was attended by:

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Prof. P.R. Botha (President   | Prof. R.C. Bigalke (Vice-Chairman)      |
| Mr. A.T. Gouws                | Prof. J.H. Giliomee                     |
| Mr. E. Adler                  | Prof. R.H. Fuggle                       |
| Mr. K.H. Cooper               | Mr. E.J. Hall                           |
| Mr. D.P. Liebenberg           | Dr. L.P. Fatti                          |
| Mr. J.F. du Preez (Secretary) | Mr. D.J. van Rensburg (Asst. Secretary) |

Absent: Prof. J.R. Grindley

Delegates from Member Organisations

|                            |                                       |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Dr. F. von Breitenbach     | - Dendrologiese Stigting              |
| Mev. Jutta von Breitenbach | - Dendrologiese Stigting              |
| Mr. J. Kamp                | - Outeniqualand Trust                 |
| Mr. V.C. Smith             | - Outeniqualand Trust                 |
| Mr. D. Lilienfeld          | - Outeniqualand Trust                 |
| Mr. Graham Ross            | - S.A. Institution of Civil Engineers |
| Mr. Owen Bruyns            | - Metal Box S.A., Keep S.A. Tidy      |

- Mr. Roelf Attwell - S.A. Botanical Society  
Dr. Roy Lubke - Co-ordinating Council for Nature Conservation  
in the Eastern Cape  
Mr. J.D.D. Kettlewell - Chairman, St. Francis/Kromme Trust  
Mrs. M.E. Kettlewell - St. Francis/Kromme Trust

There was no official representative from S.A.A.B. although Dr. Roy Lubke and Doctor F. von Breitenbach are S.A.A.B. members. Numerous important aspects such as Kaolin mining at Noordhoek; Sandy Bay development; Preservation of sensitive water courses and riverine areas in urban environments; Establishment of wood lots to provide fuel for Blacks; Evidence to President's Council Planning Committee; Proposed pipeline at Richard's Bay; Conservation of wetlands in estuarine areas; Environmentally degrading road building programmes in the Cape; Roads in the Magaliesberg; Influence of Defence Force activities on the environment; Council for the Environment and the future of the Habitat Council; environmental problem and conservation status of areas an Nature's Valley, Salt Pan (Pretoria), Blouberg, Paarl Mountain, Vaal River Hills and Swartvlei (Knysna), were discussed.

ROELF BOTHA VACATES HABITAT CHAIR: Prof. P.R. Botha, President of the Habitat Council since its inception in 1975, resigned from this position at the conclusion of the Executive Committee meeting at Plettenberg Bay on 15 April 1983.

Prof. Botha who is Professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Pretoria, was appointed Chairman of the new Council for the Environment by the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries on 17 January this year and feels in the light of this appointment that he cannot continue as Chairman of the Habitat Council.

Prof. Botha said that the two conservation bodies should not be mistaken for one and the same thing. The distinction between the two should be clearly established in the minds of the public. The Council for the Environment is a statutory body established in terms of the Environment Conservation Act of 1982 and its main task is to advise the Minister of Environment Affairs and the Director General on all aspects of environmental conservation. The Habitat Council with its membership of just about all the private conservation organisations in the country, on the other hand, functions as a completely independent body and acts as watch dog for the conservation conscious people of the country. It is free to approach any body or person directly and need not work through the established channels. The Habitat Council must feel free to criticise the Council for the Environment if it feels that the latter is not doing its job.

The two bodies can therefore not share a Chairman.

In his farewell address to Prof. Botha, Prof. Bigalke, Vice-Chairman of the Council, thanked him for the great task he fulfilled over the years and said that without such a dedicated and able man at the helm, much less would have been achieved. Prof. Bigalke said the Council accepted the resignation with understanding, but would miss Prof. Botha a lot. He wished him everything of the best in his new role as Chairman of the new Council for the Environment.

Prof. R.C. Bigalke of the University of Stellenbosch will act as Chairman of the Habitat Council till September this year when the vacancy in the Executive Committee will be filled and a new Chairman elected from within the ranks of the Committee at the Council's Annual General Meeting.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS: Copies of the following South African National Scientific Programmes Reports are available from Ecosystem Programmes, CSP, P.O. Box 395, Pretoria 0001:

- No. 61. Conservation of Ecosystems: Theory and Practice. A report on a workshop meeting held at Tsitsikama, South Africa, September 1980. Edited by W.R. Siegfried and B.R. Davies. September 1982. 97 pp.
- No. 64. Terrestrial Ecology in South Africa - project abstracts for 1980-1981. December 1982. 147 pp.
- No. 65. Alien invasive vascular plants in South African natural and seminatural environments: bibliography from 1830. V.C. Moran and P.M. Moran. December 1982. 42 pp.
- No. 66. Environmental research perspectives in South Africa. Annual Report to the National Committee for Environmental Sciences, July 1981 to June 1982. 39 pp.

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