

Acid News

A newsletter from The Swedish NGO Secretariat on Acid Rain

2/82

To our readers....

Time for another Newsletter! To start with we should like to thank all those of you who have got in touch with the Secretariat, with both words of encouragement and concrete proposals. Contacts of this kind are extremely important to us - not only because they are a source of ideas and help, but also because this Newsletter really is intended to present activities against acidification even in other countries than Sweden. So don't hesitate to write to us! We welcome all contributions, from the briefest of comments or reports to longer articles and papers.

SWEDISH GOVERNMENT TO ARRANGE INTERNATIONAL ACIDIFICATION CONFERENCE IN STOCKHOLM!

We mentioned briefly in our previous Newsletter that the Swedish Government has issued invitations to a conference on acidification, to be held in Stockholm 28 - 30 June 1982. We are devoting a large part of this Newsletter to a presentation of this Conference.

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Conference of Ministers

In June 1982 it will be ten years since the UN Conference on the Human Environment was held in Stockholm. For this reason, the Swedish Government appointed in the autumn of 1980 a special committee - called "Environment 82" - to initiate and coordinate such Swedish activities as may enter the picture in connection with this 10th Jubilee of the Conference. The Committee's main task will be to produce a Swedish report on the scale and development of acidification. The Committee will also be arranging a Conference on acidification problems, and it is this which will be taking place in Stockholm in June 1982.

All countries signing the ECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution in Geneva in 1979 have been invited. Invitations have been sent to the Government Ministers responsible for the environment in the various countries concerned.

Meetings of experts

Prior to the actual Conference of Ministers, two meetings of experts will be held. The invitation extended by the Swedish Government requests the countries concerned to select experts to attend the two meetings. The following questions will be dealt with at these meetings:

1. The effects of acidification
2. Measures against acidification and the discharge of air pollutants.

The meetings of experts will be held in the week prior to the Conference of Ministers, which is to say 21 - 24 June.

Sweden has also invited a number of other experts, on an individual basis. This is mainly to ensure that experts are available in all the various fields bearing upon the question of acidification.

The Conference of Ministers will be held in the new House of Parliament in central Stockholm. An excerpt from the programme is included in this Newsletter. The meetings of



experts will be held outside Stockholm. The programmes for these meetings are currently being drafted by a team of specially selected experts.

Reporting

A Swedish report is being produced for the meetings of experts. This will be roughly 100 pages in length, and will be translated into English, French, Spanish and Russian. Those experts who have been specially invited will also be contributing reports or written papers within their various disciplines.

Discussions at the meetings of experts will be covered in a special report, which - together with the Swedish report on acidification - will provide the background material for discussion by the Ministers. Introductory addresses at the Conference of Ministers will also be given by the representatives of various international organisations (UNEP, ECE etc.).

The Conference will focus on the long-term significance of acidification, and what conceivable solutions there may be to the problem. In official quarters, the Conference is therefore regarded as an important complement to the negotiations taking place within the framework of the ECE Convention. It is estimated that this will come into force during the latter half of 1982.

In one of our coming Newsletters we will come back to the Stockholm Conference with more information, especially to the questions on the role of NGOs.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME FOR "THE STOCKHOLM 1982 CONFERENCE
ON ACIDIFICATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT" JUNE 28-30, 1982

SUNDAY JUNE 27,	18.00	Reception at the Nordic Museum
MONDAY JUNE 28,	09.00	Registration in the Parliament building
	10.00	Opening of the conference by His Majesty the King
	10.15	Address of welcome by the Parliament Speaker, Ingemund Bengtsson
	10.30	Introductory speech by the Minister of Agriculture, Anders Dahlgren
	11.00	Coffee
	11.30	Election of chairman and bureau for the conference
		Acceptance of agenda:
		Establishment of a working group assigned to compile a declaration
	12.30	Lunch
	15.00	Statements by representatives of United Nations Environment Programme and the Economic Commission for Europe
	16.00	A presentation of the results from the expert meetings by Göran Persson The Swedish Environment Protection Board
TUESDAY JUNE 29,	09.30	General debate
	12.30	Lunch
	14.30	General debate
	18.00	Completion of the General debate
WEDNESDAY JUNE 30,	09.30	Summary of the conference by the Chairman
	10.00	Adoption of the report from the meeting (and declaration)
	12.00	Press conference

COUNTRIES WHO HAVE RESPONDED POSITIVE TO THE INVITATION
TO "THE STOCKHOLM 1982 CONFERENCE ON ACIDIFICATION OF
THE ENVIRONMENT" JUNE 28-30, 1982

1982-02-09

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| AUSTRIA | LUXEMBURG |
| BELGIUM | THE NETHERLANDS |
| DENMARK | NORWAY |
| FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY | PORTUGAL |
| FINLAND | SPAIN |
| GREAT BRITAIN | SWITZERLAND |
| HUNGARY | |
| | UNEP |
| | WMO |
| | OECD |