

BACK-TO-OFFICE-REPORT

Pollution Control and other measures to Protect Biodiversity in Lake Tanganyika (RAF/92/G32).

Draft back to office report for visit by G. Patterson to Brussels - Natural Resources Institute (NRI)

Visit made on 9 October 1998.

Separate copies

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W. Baeyens (VUB)

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E. Nzeyimana (UoB)

1. BACKGROUND

To meet with W. Baeyens and N. Brion (Vrije Universiteit Brussel) to discuss the co-operation programme between Departments of Chemistry of VUB and the University of Burundi (Evariste Nzeyimana) on 'Impact of Sediments on nutrient dynamics in Lake Tanganyika'.

This follows from the visit to Burundi of Goeyens and Coveliers in November 1997 and that of G. Patterson to Burundi in February/March 1997 and to Brussels on 17 March 1998 (see separate reports).

Dr Nzeyimana (UoB) spent a project-sponsored period of training in Belgium (at VUB) from 1 May to 19 June 1998. Equipment ordered for the proposed work arrived in Burundi at the end of August 1998. Work has already commenced in Burundi and the first sampling cruise has taken place successfully during September 1998.

2. SUMMARY OF VISIT

A meeting was held with W. Baeyens and N. Brion (L. Goeyens was absent on leave). The current proposal for the work was already agreed prior to the meeting but after discussion will be updated and resubmitted by VUB to NRI within the next few days. It will include:

Timetable. The programme should be completed by 1 September 1999 with a submission of a final report.

Reporting schedule. It was agreed that VUB initiate a reporting schedule to NRI which will consist of quarterly progress reports due on 1 December 1998, 1 March 1999, 1 June 1999 and 1 September 1999 (final report). It was proposed that VUB establish a more frequent and informal reporting requirement from Nzeyimana.

Travel requirements. It is proposed that Brion and Goeyens will make a trip to Burundi of 1 week duration during December 1998 to monitor progress and provide the necessary technical support. A further trip is anticipated before the end of the work period. This to be established at a later date.

Budget. Further budget considerations for the Lake Tanganyika Biodiversity Project (LTBP) are:

- **Equipment and fixed costs:** a further sum of \$3000 will be available for additional equipment for the University of Burundi and the cost of any specific analyses (particularly ¹⁵N and PCPN analysis) to be made outside of Burundi. This will be arranged through NRI either by submission of receipt or invoice from VUB (for minor expenses). Money will be allocated from the equipment budget for which \$10,000 was previously allocated for this work and currently \$7000 has been spent on equipment which has been transported to the University of Burundi.
- **Travel and subsistence:** That the LTBP allocate sufficient funds to allow for 4 further trips to Bujumbura for VUB staff with approximate maximum TOTAL period in country of 50 person days. This money will be allocate from the Sediments Special Study budget travel and subsistence budget.

There will be no other cost liability to the LTBP other than general logistical support of fieldwork.

3. PRINCIPAL ACTION POINTS

3.1 VUB to submit an updated proposal as described above.

3.2 A CV for N. Brion is required by NRI for submission to United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS) for clearance to act as a consultant on the project. This should be done as soon as possible.

3.3 VUB decide on the most satisfactory travel schedule for the next visit to the region as soon as possible in order to allow NRI to make the necessary arrangements

3.4 G. Patterson to circulate the updated work proposal amongst all relevant project participants.

3.5 G. Patterson to draft a letter of agreement to VUB outlining the above level of commitment of the project to the proposal produced.

3.6 Project Co-ordination Unit of LTBP to ensure that the necessary logistical support, letters of agreement with UoB and PRAs are paid to Evariste Nzeyimana and his technician (David Nahimana) for the period commencing with the return of Nzeyimana to Burundi (1 June 1998) to the end of the proposed period of work (1 September 1999). Suggested rates for Nzeyimana of \$150 per month and for Nahimana of \$100 per month.

G. Patterson
12 October 1998