

Secret

Dr. G. Bohnecke
34, Neuer Wall
Hamburg 36

Cable:

SCORSEC
HAMBURG
GERMANY

Telephone:

34 70 48

President:

Dr. G. Humphrey
C.S.I.R.O.
Box 21, Cronulla
Sydney

Cable:

CORESEARCH
CRONULLA
AUSTRALIA

Telephone:

523 0214

September 15, 1961

Ref. 033.4251
GFH/DKE

CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM TO NATIONAL COMMITTEES

INDIAN OCEAN REFERENCE STATIONS

During the recent Pacific Science Congress in Honolulu, SCOR arranged an informal discussion on the work which might be carried out in the eastern part of the Indian Ocean. Scientists from Australia, France, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines, and U.S.A. were present.

It was noted that the Australian ship H.M.A.S. "Diamantina" has fixed a reference station at 111°50'E., 32°00'S. (depth 5000 m) and that she has sampled this station as frequently as possible since 1959, usually at the beginning and end of each cruise. The results from the biological samples are particularly useful in seasonal studies and the results from the deep chemical samples provide a check on the consistency of analyses.

It was suggested that other reference stations should be decided upon in locations where ships of many laboratories could frequently and conveniently call. In addition to providing seasonal coverage at these locations, some of the observations could be used to intercalibrate the different techniques being used. It was suggested that the following locations should be chosen and that the exact positions should be decided by the national committees indicated.

Between Madagascar and South Africa	France, South Africa
South-west of Java	Japan, U.S.A.
Off Aden	U.K., U.S.A.
Mid-Arabian Sea	U.K., U.S.A., U.S.S.R.
South of Cochin	U.S.A., U.S.S.R.

Please send your comments on this proposal to our Secretary, Dr Bohnecke, before the end of October. This will enable your comments to be discussed at the next SCOR meeting.

(G.F. HUMPHREY)
President of SCOR