

LEARNED NEWS***FFM subcommittee on Education and Training***

The subcommittee on Education and Training had an informal meeting in Yokohama. It asked the Board to contact the 6 major national institutions in the region (BO, BRUN, FRIM, LAE, SING, PNH) with the suggestion for each to appoint a person, who together should act as a regional clearing house (cf. recommendations of the Second Flora Malesiana Symposium). Prof. RIFAI and Dr. ROOS will collect information to coordinate all research carried out by students in the region.

Dr. BARLOW has proposed that he will organise a post-graduate training programme in Australia (from 1995 onwards) for Indonesian students (and - probably - for students from the other countries as well).

The course on plant systematics, held every two years in Bogor, will be continued as a joint Bogor-BIOTROP-Leiden course open for students from the region, also in case no funding can be obtained from UNESCO in the future. The next one will be organised in September-October 1994. The MSc-course at BO is in full swing with 12 students.

Furthermore, the subcommittee asked the Board and the major national institutions to promote the idea that taxonomists will be appointed at all universities in the region to teach taxonomy and fieldwork. An important point to make to funding agencies which fund training programmes is that they grant further investments for the same trainees to get started on and continue existing research projects.

Malaysia

Mr. A. BERHAMAN (SAN) and Ms. A. NOORSIHA (KEP) returned from the United Kingdom after attending a 'Postgraduate Training Course in Plant Taxonomy' at the

University of Reading from January to April 1993. At the same university, under the fellowships received from ODA-UK, Mr. ABANG MOHD. MOHTAR ABANG PAWOZAN (SAR) and Mr. JULIUS KULIP (SAN) have begun their postgraduate training (PhD and MSc respectively) in Plant taxonomy, whereas Mr. SAW LENG GUAN (FRIM) is continuing his taxonomic and ecological studies of the Malayan *Licuala* (Arecaceae) for his PhD programme.