

The international character of this program and the urgency for multinational participation were described by Dr. Bennett in his prepared statement of 9 May:

"The objectivity of nature is not changed by national boundaries, and the criteria against which experimental observations and findings and scientific principles are judged, are not different in different nations.

"In short, the transnational character of science is intrinsic and is not merely a result of collaborative international agreements or the actions of governments. Hence, science can serve as a neutral portal to international understanding, quite apart from its specific disciplinary and intellectual content."

and continuing -

"While environmental change is not qualitatively new, today's problems and our concern are new because of the new quantitative aspect of the change - the scale, variety, and speed of the changes in man's physical and social environment. Another and most important characteristic of current environmental problems is the unanticipated ways in which changes interact, examples being the simultaneous adoption of the internal combustion engine and the surge to urbanization and untoward effects of advances in our ability to transport large quantities of raw materials."

In summary it has been said that the United States has nothing to lose from lack of support of the IBP except the opportunity to gain tremendously, both materially and scientifically.