The problem of lack of communication between scientists engaged in the fundamental research and those engineers, technologists and others who are working on actual clean-ups was serious. The workshop recommended that at the 3rd. Conference, there be one or more plenary sessions devoted to fundamental research findings bearing on the problem of contamination in freezing soils. It was considered important that these be plenary sessions, such that there would be a cross-fertilisation of ideas ensuring that the latest findings of research scientists could be brought to bear on the expensive procedures for contaminant clean-up.

Large-area monitoring and assessment

Chairman: W. Gareth Rees Rapporteur Vitaly Kimstach

Vitaly Kimstach outlined the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) and its mandate, activities and plans to 2003.

These were discussed and the group then made the following recommendations:

1. Greater use should be made of remote sensing techniques for generating supporting information on the distribution and effects of Arctic ground pollution.

2. The implications of Arctic studies for the Southern Hemisphere, particularly on long-range transport of pollutants and of bioaccumulation in the food chain, should be investigated.

3. The results of studies of contaminants in freezing ground, represented by the range of investigations presented at the Cambridge Conferences in 1997 and 2000 (the 'Contaminants in freezing ground community'), should be used by AMAP for the assesssment of contaminant pathways in the Arctic.

4. Conversely, AMAP recommends that the 'Contaminants in Freezing Ground' community should include consideration of a wider range of pollutants, especially PCBs, and climate-change effects and rates.

5. Mechanisms should be established for the exchange of information between the CFG community and AMAP