

**Resolutions and Recommendations of the  
Symposium on the Reclamation of Sodic and  
Soda-Saline Soils Held in Yerevan,  
from 26 to 31 May 1969**

1. The participants of the Symposium on the Reclamation of Sodic and Soda-Saline Soils in the closing session in Yerevan, Armenian SSR, on Saturday, May 31, 1969, express their great appreciation and thanks to the Armenian Government, to the Minister of Agriculture of the USSR and, specifically, to the Minister of Agriculture of the Armenian SSR for their generous support which made it possible to hold the Second Symposium on Salt Affected Soils in the beautiful capital of Armenia.

Special thanks are due to Prof. Dr. G. P. Petrosian, Secretary General of the Organizing Committee, for the perfect organization of the conference and excursions. The participants further thank all those who contributed to the success of the meeting.

2. The participants of the Symposium highly appreciate the work carried out as regarding the theory of soda salinity, the practical solutions of problems relating to the reclamation of soda-saline soils and the development of new methods aimed at investigating such soils, and affirm that significant research and practical experiments with various reclamation methods are being conducted in many parts of the world, for instance in Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Spain, India, Peru, Romania, U.A.R., U.S.A., Yugoslavia and in a number of African countries.

During the Symposium great attention was paid to the transportation of soda to the soil surface from subsoil waters. New facts relating to the origin of soda resulting from the dynamics of various processes have been established. Investigations on the effect of the various factors (including the biological factor) on the processes of soda formation in soils were found to be of considerable importance.

The technology of the amelioration of soda-saline soils by adding a number of chemical amendments has been elaborated and applied in practice. Great achievements in this field have been made in Armenia.

3. The Symposium recommends that the Subcommission on Salt Affected Soils of the ISSS initiate the development of an international programme on the study of the genesis and the reclamation of soda-saline soils including the investigation of soil processes leading to the alkalization, salinization or dealkalinization, desalinization of soils particularly with regard to irrigation.

To facilitate the successful achievement of the above purpose, it is expedient to standardize the methods used in soil investigations (in the laboratory and/or in the field) and in soil reclamation.

(This is a shortened version of the rather detailed enumeration of subjects to be studied as officially adopted. After consultation with Professors Kovda,

Petrosian, Szabolcs and van Baren this abbreviated text reflecting more generally the consensus of the meeting was preferred.)

4. The next Symposium should be convened not later than 1972 (in view of the Tenth and Jubilee International Congress of Soil Science to be held in Moscow, USSR in 1974). The participants accepted with pleasure the provisional invitation of Prof. Dr. M. Elgabaly to convene this meeting in the UAR. (An official invitation by the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform to hold the meeting in the UAR in December 1972 has been received.)

5. The Symposium requests the Ministry of Agriculture of the USSR and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Armenian SSR to publish the proceedings of the present Symposium with as little as possible delay in order to make the scientific results of the contributions available in a very near future. It is suggested that the date of publication be fixed at one year from now.

The Hungarian Academy of Sciences be requested to agree to publishing the results of the deliberations on the World Map of Salt Affected Soils as a Supplement to "Agrokémia és Talajtan". In this volume selected papers especially those dealing with related genetic and geographic aspects of salt affected soils, as well as a selection of papers submitted but not presented and the resolutions and recommendations should be included. This would ensure a bibliographic continuation of the publications. A committee consisting of Professors van Baren, Kovda, Petrosian and Szabolcs should select the papers to be published in the Supplement.