

## SERIES PREFACE

The present volume in the series *Ecological Bulletins*, published by the Swedish Natural Science Council, is truly interdisciplinary and has a global outlook. The volume focuses on the global biogeochemical cycles of nitrogen, phosphorus and sulphur from many different angles: meteorology, hydrology, microbiology, soil science, and environmental sciences. It should thus be of interest to researchers in these fields as well as anybody interested in the increased interaction of man with the biosphere, and in the implications this might have for the future.

The initiative taken by the Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE) of ICSU to commence a study on the global biogeochemical cycles was welcomed by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and the Swedish Natural Science Research Council. They have supported and funded the present report together with Shell, via a grant to SCOPE, and UNEP, via a grant to the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

It was considered appropriate to publish the final report from the project as a volume in the series of SCOPE reports (see inside back cover) and also as an *Ecological Bulletin*. The latter series is to comprise reports on ecological studies in their broadest sense which have been supported by the Research Council.

We hope that through publications like the present one, the *Ecological Bulletins* will become widespread. Our aim is rapid publication of pertinent information at reasonable cost.

Thomas Rosswall

Editor-in-Chief, *Ecological Bulletins*

Chairman, local organizing committee for  
the SCOPE project on biogeochemical cycles

