

10th Arctic Ungulate Conference

The 10th Arctic Ungulate Conference was organised by the Department of Arctic Biology and held at the University of Tromsø, Norway, 9-13 August 1999. The conference continued a series of nine conferences devoted to Arctic ungulates, including five International Reindeer/Caribou Symposia, two International Muskox Symposia and two Arctic Ungulate Conferences.

Two hundred delegates from 14 countries attended and presented more than 150 scientific papers, making it one of the biggest Arctic Ungulate Conferences ever. The scientific and social programme as well as the abstracts have been published in *Rangifer* Report No. 4, 1999.

In an important break with normal practice, keynote speakers included scientists of international reputation who do not normally work with Arctic ungulates. They were asked to review recent work in northern species/ecosystems thus providing the conference with novel criticism and new perspectives. Their papers are published in this volume. Delegates' papers will be published in later issues of *Rangifer*.

The Conference also included a Circumpolar PhD-Network in Arctic Environmental Studies (CAES) workshop: "Reindeer 2000", attended by 47 participants presenting 25 student contributions, 5 keynote lectures and 3 introductory speeches. A *Rangifer* Special Issue with workshop papers is planned for publication later in 2000.

The Conference was sponsored by the Norwegian Reindeer Husbandry Development Fund, the Norwegian Reindeer Husbandry Research Council, the Nordic Council for Reindeer Research, the Norwegian State Bank of Agriculture, the University of Tromsø and the Roald Amundsen Centre for Arctic Research at the University of Tromsø.

A meeting of representatives appointed by the different national delegations was held on 11 August 1999. A new Arctic Ungulate Society was inaugurated. The statutes of the Society are appended.

In its first meeting, the Executive committee of the Arctic Ungulate Society agreed that the next Conference will be held in Finland and the Finnish representative later informed that the venue for the next meeting is likely to be Saariselkä in northern Finland.

Arnoldus Schytte Blix, Chairman of the Organising Committee