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Theme I. - SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

Theme Ic : The rates of run-off and evaporation.

The Assembly,

considering the extreme importance of water conservation for maintaining an effective plant cover and conserving the climax vegetation,

considering the fact that surface run-off, apart from the danger of erosion which it presents, has the effect, especially in areas of scarce or badly distributed rainfall, of altering climatic conditions to tend towards greater aridity.

Recommends :

that in these regions water conservation should be carried out by putting into effect every known method of run-off control, particularly on land suitable for cultivation or livestock breeding ;

that these methods should be determined and used in accordance with the results of a hydrological study of each region, the only way of deciding whether, in controlling run-off, it is preferable to store waters underground or alternatively in surface reservoirs.

The Assembly,

considering the great importance to soil conservation of the results of the first experiments on run-off and erosion carried out in tropical Africa,

Expresses the wish :

that these experiments be continued and extended and that they be based on soil classifications ;

that special research and study should be made into the causes of the degradation of structure of different types of soil and means of checking this process.