

Preface to the special issue on the “XVIII Italian–Spanish Congress on the Thermodynamics of Metal Complexes (ISMEC 2007)”

In June 2007, the XVIII Italian–Spanish Congress on the Thermodynamics of Metal Complexes (ISMEC 2007) was held in Pula, Sardinia, Italy. The aim of the Congress was to provide an opportunity for an exchange of scientific information, critical discussion and advanced planning on fundamental and applied aspects of the Thermodynamics of Metal Complexes and closely related topics. This included topics in the following scientific fields:

- Solution equilibria in aqueous and non-aqueous solvents:
 - thermodynamic properties and chemical structure correlations;
 - computer methods for equilibrium studies.
- Complexes with biological and medical interest.
- Complexes of environmental interest.
- Complexes with analytical and technical applications.
- Thermodynamics of ion exchange.
- Thermodynamic aspects of macromolecular and supramolecular interactions.

Since 1989, meetings have been successfully held every other year in Italy or Spain. ISMEC 2007 attracted more than a hundred researchers from Italy and Spain and other European countries. I had the pleasure of inviting a selection of authors

to present their contribution to a special issue of Coordination Chemistry Reviews, for which I am sincerely obliged to the Editor, Professor Barry Lever. I would like to thank here all the authors who accepted my invitation with great enthusiasm, making possible this collection of attractive and high-quality reviews.

This issue of Coordination Chemistry Reviews is intended as a tribute to the memory of Professor Fernando Pulidori, who sadly passed away on 30 January 2007. With this special issue, the Italian Group of Thermodynamics of Metal Complexes commemorates a friend who was appreciated not only for his capacity as professor and researcher but above all for his humanity and intellectual skills.

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