

## Preface

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The XVIth International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry was held last September in Bologna (Italy) under the organization of the Division of Medicinal Chemistry of the Italian Chemical Society.

More than 1000 participants from all over the world attended the Symposium. Seventy-two invited lectures and more than 300 posters were presented and debated, hence continuing the traditional path of interdisciplinary co-operation.

We think that the presentations were of great help in showing that in the year 2000, the perspective of better and safer drugs has been nearly achieved in several

fields. To further this vision, we decided to publish the full text of plenary lectures in the journal of IUPAC and the full text of all lectures in *Il Farmaco* (Elsevier). More than 60% of researchers agreed to present their paper and I want to thank each of them for this effort.

I hope you will enjoy this to the same extent you enjoyed your stay in Bologna.

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