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## Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals

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## **Foreword**

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## **FOREWORD**

The Third International Topical Meeting on Optics of Liquid Crystals was held at the Grand Hotel San Michele in the small coastal town of Cetraro in southern Italy. Approximately sixty scientists attended the meeting and actively participated in the after-session discussions. The summer climate in Cetraro, combined with the congenial atmosphere at the hotel, made this meeting especially enjoyable for all involved.

The theme of the meeting was optical properties and applications of liquid crystals and organic materials. Topics discussed included nonlinear optics, interface effects, applications, and microscopic and macroscopic properties studied by optical methods.

Much interest has been expressed in this conference series, mostly due to the small size of each meeting, which encourages scientific discussions during and after the lectures. Therefore, it was decided to continue the series, shifting it to odd years so as not to overlap with other conferences, which are usually held in even years. In keeping with its international character, it was decided to have the next meeting in Florida in October 1991.

I would like to acknowledge the support of all sponsors, without whom this meeting would not have been possible, and I heartily thank Ms. Bianca D'Amato whose assistance in the organization of this meeting helped make it a success.

Francesco Simoni Chairman of OLC '90