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Preface

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PREFACE

The Nagoya Conference on "Perspectives in Organic-Inorganic Hybrid Solids: Molecular Design and Functionality" was convened on 14–16 March, 1996 at The Symposion Hall of Nagoya University, Japan. The participants came from a wide range of chemistry and physics, including inorganic and organic synthesis, co-ordination, catalytic, physical and theoretical chemistry, as well as experimental and theoretical condensed matter physics. The 239 participants represented various countries from Asia, Europe, and North America. There were 27 invited oral presentations and 111 posters.

The key word "molecular-based compounds with multi-electronic systems having multi-functionalities" was proposed at the conference. Most presentations and discussions were focused on this key word and the perspectives in this field. As a result, it was recognized that multi-functionalities with simultaneous operation of electronic conduction and optics, optics and magnetism, and/or magnetism and electronic conduction are more promising compared with single-functionality of optics, magnetism or conduction.

This conference was held timely since enormous data required for design and construction of multi-functionalities have been accumulated, and research on organic-inorganic hybrid solids is entering a period of mushrooming growth. Particularly, in co-ordination chemistry, there is a large potentiality and ability to control electronic properties of organic-inorganic hybrid systems. In addition, since the discovery of organic superconductivity in π electronic systems in 1980, research on organic superconductors and conductors has rapidly developed and now opens a new stage, where molecular-based compounds of organic-inorganic hybrid systems are focused. The Nagoya Conference highlighted the co-operation of d-π multi-electronic systems and developed an aspect of "multi-functionality".

This Conference is a starting point for further development of research on organic-inorganic hybrid systems. We hope that many fruitful results and discussions presented in this Conference will contribute greatly to future research.

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