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Guest Editor's Preface

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GUEST EDITOR'S PREFACE

This volume contains materials presented at the International Symposium on Molecular Design and Functionalities of Assembled Metal Complexes (AMC'99). The conference was held in Kyoto, Japan, November 30 – December 2, 1999.

About 200 scientists from 7 different countries came to Kyoto to present their scientific work and to discuss all modern aspects of Assembled Metal Complexes and innovative fields of applications. The topics of the meeting were reflected in different sections on: Metal Cluster Complexes – Assembled Metal Complexes with Special Structures or Ligands – One-dimensionally Assembled Metal Complexes – Two-or Three-dimensionally Assembled Metal Complexes – Assembled Metal Complexes of π -Conjugated Polymers – Catalysis by Assembled Metal Complexes – Electronic Structures of Assembled Metal Complexes – Electric, Magnetic, and Optical Properties of Assembled Metal Complexes.

The Organizing Committee received 140 abstracts. Finally, 23 invited talks and 117 posters were presented at AMC'99, demonstrating the increasing scientific importance and attractiveness of the assembled metal complexes. About 80 selected papers are presented in full in these special issues of *Molecular Crystal and Liquid Crystals*.

During the AMC'99 meeting, we were able to have a plenty of official and personal discussions to exchange ideas, and maintain and begin new collaborations. We wish to thank all participants and authors being responsible for the scientific success of AMC'99. The next AMC meeting is expected to be held in 2001.

However, such a conference could not be held without the generous financial support of the Ministry of Education, Science, Sports and Culture, Japan and Gordon and Breach Science Publishers.

Finally, we would like to thank the organizer of the conference secretariat, Professor Susumu Kitagawa, Kyoto University, and all members of his group for their precious work helping us to organize AMC'99.

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