Preface

The XIth International Conference on Boron Chemistry (IMEBORON XI) was held 28 July–2 August 2002 at the main building of the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS) in Moscow, Russian Federation. The conference was sponsored by IUPAC, UNESCO, Ministry of Industry, Science and Technology of the Russian Federation, RAS, Russian Foundation for Basic Research, Borax Europe Ltd., and JSC "AVIABOR" (Dzerzhinsk, Russia) and was organized by the A. N. Nesmeyanov Institute of Organoelement Compounds, the N. D. Zelinsky Institute of Organic Chemistry, the N. S. Kurnakov Institute of General and Inorganic Chemistry and Institute of Physical Chemistry of Ceramics of the RAS, M. V. Lomonosov Moscow State University, State Scientific-Research Institute of Chemistry and Technology of Organoelement Compounds, and "VIAM" State Research Center.

This conference, held every three years, provides an international forum for the presentation of the latest results and future trends as well as for discussion of the key problems in various fields of boron chemistry. The main goal of the conference is to analyze the state of the art in boron chemistry, to encourage the newcomers to the field, and to give the experts fresh motivation for future developments. For a long time, boron compounds have played an important role in fundamental chemistry owing to the fortunate combination of their unique structure and their wide range of practical applications.

The presentations at two parallel scientific sessions (organoboron compounds and inorganic boron compounds) cover the following areas: theoretical studies, organoboron compounds, boranes and carboranes, metallaboranes and metallacarboranes, applications in organic synthesis and catalysis, applications in medicine, materials, and polymers. Two hundred and twenty scientists from 14 countries took part in the conference and presented 25 invited lectures, 30 oral communications, and 87 posters.

This issue of *Pure and Applied Chemistry* contains most of the invited lectures presented at the IMEBORON XI. On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I thank all the authors for their contribution to the success of the conference and the sponsors for their financial support.

Yuri Bubnov Chairman of Organizing Committee