
Reports from Conferences

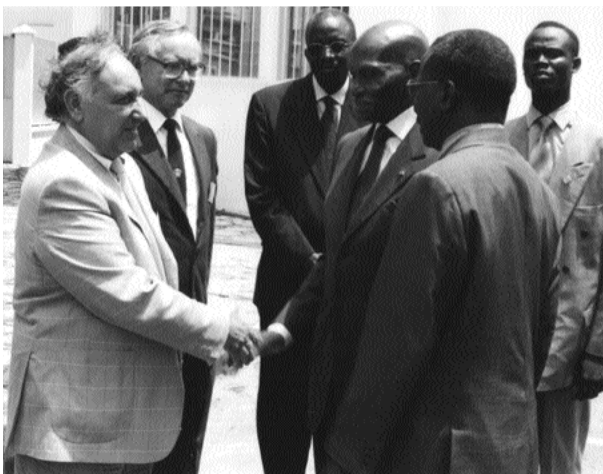
Chemistry and Quality of Life

by Stanley S. Langer

Almost 150 people attended the 8th International Chemistry Conference in Africa (8 ICCA) held 30 July–3 August 2001 at the Université Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar, Sénégal. Fifteen African countries and ten other countries were represented at the conference, the latest in a triennial series. The meeting was opened by the President of Sénégal, H.E. Abdoulaye Wade, who flew in specially from meeting his counterpart in Côte d'Ivoire. His inspiring address was much appreciated by all those present. Over 250 people attended the opening ceremony, including Professor M Sourang (Minister of National Education) and Professor A. K. Boye (Chancellor of the University).

The major theme for the conference centered on Chemistry and the Quality of Life, with 10 plenary talks dealing with environmental issues, health and agriculture, water quality, natural products, chemical education, and African chemistry in a societal context. In addition, there were many short talks and excellent poster sessions that provoked much animated discussion. As might be expected, anti-malarial chemistry and AIDS were two of the predominant areas for discussion, both within the main sessions and at informal gatherings. All the plenary lectures were published in the July 2001 issue of *Pure and Applied Chemistry* (PAC, Vol. 73, No. 7, pp.1147–1223).

Associated with the meeting was a three-day workshop organized by the ACS in cooperation with ICCA and the African Association for Pure and Applied



Shaking hands are Stanley Langer (left) and President Abdoulaye Wade. On the left side of Langer is Prof. Trevor Letcher and on the left side of the President is Prof. M. Sourang.

Chemistry (AAPAC). The workshop, which dealt with environmental chemistry, specifically exploring collaborative opportunities to improve water quality, attracted almost 50 attendees.

The hospitality accorded to the participants at the conference was much appreciated and the success of the meeting was due largely to the organizational skills of Libasse Diop and Abdoulaye Samb. Thanks for financial and other support are also extended to the Université Cheikh Anta Diop, the Government of Sénégal, the American Chemical Society, the Royal Society of Chemistry, and UNESCO. It is hoped that the many positive outcomes will be reflected in the programme for the next conference in the series to be held in 2004 in Tanzania.

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Macromolecules-Metal Complexes

by Y. Okamoto

The 9th International Symposium on Macromolecules-Metal Complexes (MMC9) was held 19–23 August 2001 at the Polytechnic University's campus in Brooklyn New York, USA. The symposium was organized by the Polytechnic University's Polymer Research Institute and was sponsored by IUPAC and by the American Chemical Society's Division of Polymer Chemistry.

The honorary chairman of the conference was Professor Eishun Tsuchida and the chairmen of the meeting were Kalle Levon, director of PRI, and Professor Yoshi Okamoto. The symposium focused on the role of metal ions, complexes, and clusters in macromolecular systems. These macromolecular complexes play a pivotal role in a wide range of technologies including sensors, fuel cells, batteries, medical devices, toxic material recovery, and fiber optic amplifiers.

There were 40 oral presentations in addition to a poster session at the conference, which attracted over 150 attendees, including 75 international scientists. Professors Eli M. Pearce, Victor Kabanov, Eishun Tsuchida, and Alan G. MacDiarmid, the Nobel Laureate 2000, were the plenary speakers. The 10th Macromolecular Metal Complexes (MMC-10) will be held in Moscow in May 2003.

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