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Foreword

M. C. Hennion; J. Albaigés

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FOREWORD

The first meeting of this series organized by the International Association of Environmental Analytical Chemistry was held in Amsterdam ten years ago, in 1986. Although the series was started for dealing specifically with organophosphorus compounds, the increasing concern for the new generation of pesticides being used for different purposes and also for replacing the persistent organochlorinated ones, moved the organizers to widen the scope of the workshop to its present format.

After Amsterdam (1986), Barcelona (1987), Bilthoven (1991) and Prague (1993) the torch was passed to Paris. The 5th Symposium was held at the Ecole Supérieure de Physique et Chimie Industrielles de Paris (ESPCI). More than 200 participants including environmental chemists, analytical chemists, toxicologists, biologists, etc. meet from 6 to 8 September 1995 to present and discuss in an interdisciplinary way the relevant scientific problems in the field. Emphasis was placed on environmental analytical chemistry (sample pretreatment, novel instrumentation, hyphenated techniques based on chromatography and mass spectrometry, immunochemistry-based methods, validation studies and quality assurance), on ecotoxicology and risk assessment, on fate of pesticides in the environment (including biological, chemical and photochemical degradation patterns) and on transport and modelling. A selection of the papers presented is offered now in this volume of the International Journal of Environmental Analytical Chemistry.

We thank all contributors and the members of the organizing Committee for arranging a successful programme and we are pleased to announce the 6th Symposium which will be held in Amsterdam (NL) at Free University, from 4–6 June 1997.

M. C. Hennion
J. Albaigés