

**Proceedings of the International Centre for Science and High Technology
of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization
Workshop on “Catalysis for Environmentally Friendly Processes and Products”**

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In the present work programme, the activities of the International Centre for Science and High technology of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (ICS-UNIDO) focus on specific sectors of chemistry, environment, new materials and high technology. Within the area of chemistry a subprogramme on catalysis and sustainable chemistry is being developed, with the focus on clean technologies for pollution prevention and reduction and on exploitation of renewable resources as feedstocks.

A larger diffusion of clean catalytic technologies in chemical manufacturing and the use of renewable resources, particularly crop-derived raw materials, meet the economic and social interest of developing and in transition countries. Expected benefits of catalytic routes are higher process efficiency, decreased waste production, elimination of hazardous reagents and by-products. The use of renewable resources in chemical industry represents an opportunity growth for agricultural production, while reducing the impact of oil based processes on the environment. Another important issue is the need for new, efficient technologies for remediation of soils and water and for destruction of pollutants.

The present publication is the proceedings of papers presented at the ICS-UNIDO Workshop on “Catalysis for Environmentally Friendly Processes and Products” organized in cooperation with the Department of Chemical Engineering of the Kocaeli University, and held in Istanbul on 24-27 September 2001. During the workshop it was agreed with Professor Zulkhair A. Mansurov, Editor-in Chief of the Eurasian Chemico-Technological Journal, to publish in this Journal the proceedings of the workshop.

The workshop comprised plenary lectures focusing on the following main issues:

- strategies for the development of new chemical processes and technologies
- technologies for pollution reduction and prevention
- technologies for the exploitation of renewable materials as feedstocks

Its final part was dedicated to the presentation of country reports focused on the survey of the situation in this field in Eastern European, Mediterranean and some Asian countries.

The participating lecturers have summarized their contributions and provided them as full papers. Views and statements of the individual authors remain their own responsibility.

I wish to express my appreciation to all the authors for their expertise and contributions. I would also like to thank Professor Nilgun Akin, from Kocaeli University (Chairperson of the Organizing Committee) and all the members of the organizing committee for their work in the overall organization of the Workshop. The valuable cooperation of Professor Mansurov, Editor-in-chief of this journal, in the publication of the present special issue is also highly appreciated.