

# Foreword



My friendship with Polish scientists began when I met Dr. Tadeusz Szczepkowski, with whom I collaborated at the Nobel Medical Institute in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1957 under the guidance of Prof. Hugo Theorell. When we parted, we promised to cooperate again some day in either Japan or Poland. Unfortunately, he died several years later, but our friendship carried over to his colleague Prof. W. S. Ostrowski, who visited me in Japan several times to conduct cooperative research. One day during his stay in Japan, we visited Mr. H. Osaki, Director General of Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), to ask him to fortify the cooperation between scientists of both of our countries. He warmly accepted us and informed us that agreements for the research cooperation between the JSPS and the Polish Academy of Sciences have already been concluded and that he would devote even more effort to promoting

these ties. In 1994, we were pleased to learn that an additional Memorandum of Understanding had been signed between our two societies to conduct the joint seminars. Accordingly, Dr. K. Soda, Dr. Y. Murooka, Mr. K. Okada, Head, Research Cooperation Division of JSPS, and myself visited the Polish Academy in May 1995 to make arrangements for this seminar. Thus, the first bilateral symposium, entitled "Medical Applications of Molecular Biology", was organized, with Prof. W. J. Stec and myself as the organizers; and the meeting was held during the period of December 11 - 15, 1995, in Łódź and Kraków. It is my hope that this bilateral symposium will continue to be held at regular intervals long into the future to promote the advancement of sciences not only in Poland and Japan but also all over the world for the realization of our final goal of bettering the human condition.

Kunio YAGI