Foreword

The primary objective of the International Conference "Astronomy in Ukraine – 2000 and Beyond (Impact of International Cooperation)" held in Kyiv, June 5–8, 2000, was to consider the integration of astronomical research in Ukraine into astronomical international programs. This objective was pursued at 3 Plenary Sessions on general problems of astronomy, as well as 4 Workshops and 1 Seminar concerned with those fields of astronomy where Ukrainian/foreign partnership was established and where new collaboration proposals could be prepared.

The following topics were discussed at the Conference:

– VLBI for Astronomy and Geodynamics (Workshop I)
– Evolution of Galaxies (Workshop II)
– Solar System Bodies (Workshop III)
– Stellar Variability (Workshop IV)
– Space Plasma Physics (Seminar)

The Conference was organized by the Ukrainian Astronomical Association (UAA) and the Main Astronomical Observatory of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (MAO NASU). It was supported by CRDF, INTAS, and Ministry for Education and Science of Ukraine. The technical assistance was provided by the Ukrainian Institute of Scientific-Technical and Economical Information.

The Conference attracted many well-known scientists and young astronomers from 12 countries (Austria, Bulgaria, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Kazakhstan, Poland, Russia, Ukraine, and the USA). Distinguished Guests attended the Conference, among them the Minister for Education and Science of Ukraine and his Deputies, representatives of the National Science Foundation, INTAS, CRDF, and of the NASU Presidium.

Thanks to conscientious efforts of the Organizers and financial support of the Sponsors, the Conference met its goals. More than 180 papers were presented and a high level of international cooperation was confirmed, new proposals for prospective collaboration both at the bilateral base and on the international level were discussed. A lot of young astronomers and post-doctoral students attended the Conference. Among the topics for discussion were also such important issues as how to use the unique Ukrainian astronomical facilities (radio, optical, and gamma telescopes) more effectively. In this respect the scientific trip of the foreign participants to the Institute of Radio Astronomy (Kharkiv), to the Crimean Astrophysical Observatory (Naukove and Katsiveli, Crimea), and the National Space Facilities Control and Test Center (Evpatoria, Crimea) was very useful.

The Proceedings of the Conference include general review papers, reports, and short communications. We preserved the papers as they were provided by the Participants. We made only minor changes in some manuscripts which did not result in any loss of the scientific meaning of presentations.

The editorial team of the Proceedings, S. V. Khmil, O. V. Klimenko, L. M. Kostenko, L. M. Shulman, I. B. Vavilova, and O. A. Veles, are warmly acknowledged. Our sincere gratitude to Mrs. Iryna P. Vedenicheva, who contacted with the authors and inserted all editorial corrections as well as prepared the Proceedings for publication.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee of the Conference I wish to thank all the Participants for collaboration.

Yaroslav S. Yatskiv, Prof.
Editor, SOC Chairman