

EDITOR'S PREFACE

The Third Meeting of the Working Group on the Project Siberian Aerosols was held by the Institute of Atmospheric Optics of the SB RAS in Tomsk on 26–29 November 1996. This traditional meeting of the participants of the informal initiative project was aimed at cooperation and coordination of activity of research groups engaged in aerosol problems in our region.

In the Meeting, 58 reports were presented (including 4 plenary, 46 oral, and 8 poster reports) in which the following topics were discussed:

- 1) Methods and means for investigation of aerosols
- 2) Aerosol generation, transformation, transport, and sink
- 3) Optical characteristics of aerosols
- 4) Dynamics of aerosols under background conditions
- 5) Anthropogenic aerosols.

There were 53 representatives from 9 organizations of four Russian cities (1 from Irkutsk, 2 from Kol'tsovo settlement of the Novosibirsk Region, 8 from Novosibirsk, and 42 from Tomsk).

The most interesting works were recommended for publication in the thematic issue of the Journal *Atmospheric and Oceanic Optics*. Because of limitations on the length of the Journal, the Organizing Committee decided to publish first the papers presented by participants from other cities. We assure the authors whose works have not been included in this issue that all papers meeting the journal requirements will be published in next issues.

The salient feature of the meeting held in 1996 was high activity of scientists engaged in modeling of transport and transformation of aerosol particles of different origin in the atmosphere, so it is reasonable to suppose that purposeful experiments will be performed and more sophisticated analysis of accumulated measurement results will be made. This pleasant moment has been reflected on the contents of this issue of the Journal.

In conclusion, the Organizing Committee would like to acknowledge all participants and to invite the researchers concerned to take an active part in the Fourth Meeting of the Working Group that will be held in November 1997.

Chairman of the Organizing Committee,
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