

Preface

The first Asian Particle Accelerator Conference (APAC98) took place in Tsukuba, Japan, from March 23 to 27, 1998. It was organized by High Energy Accelerator Research Organization (KEK), under the auspices of the Asian Committee for Future Accelerator (ACFA), and was attended by 400 participants from all over Asia as well as from countries outside Asia. It was a big success, and without doubt, it will be remembered among the Asian accelerator science community as a memorable event in its history.

The Asian Committee for Future Accelerators (ACFA) was formed in 1996. Reflecting the rapid growth in accelerator-based science in Asia, the ACFA objective is to promote mutual understanding of activities, and to strengthen international collaborations among Asian countries. The first ACFA meeting was held at Pohang, Korea, at which the Pohang Light Source is located. At the meeting, ACFA decided to regularly hold Asian Particle Accelerator Conference (APAC) and to have the first conference at Tsukuba, Japan.

The conference was opened with the welcome address by Hirotaka Sugawara, Chairman of ACFA and Director-General of KEK, followed by ten reports from each country or region, which gave an overview on the activities in their respective region. There were 38 invited talks on the subjects of accelerators for high-energy physics, high-intensity proton accelerators, RI beam factories, synchrotron radiation and FELs, low- or medium-energy accelerators for medical and industrial purposes, and applications. Besides the invited talks, the conference program included 24 oral and 200 poster presentations.

A KEK tour, which took place in the afternoon of March 27, provided opportunities for on-location discussions between the participants and KEK staffs, which was very fruitful in particular for younger participants. During the tour, participants were able to inspect the construction site of the B factory, the upgraded electron linear accelerator, the Accelerator Test Facility (ATF) for the development of linear collider technology, and the test stand for the JHF linear accelerator. Evenings were also quite lively at parties and a banquet, which further helped the participants to get to know each other well.

The conference was closed by an address of Zhipeng Zheng, Director of Institute of High Energy Physics (China) and the next chairman of ACFA. The second APAC is provisionally scheduled to be in China in 2001, as decided at the ACFA meeting held on March 25.

I would like to thank the members of the International Organizing Committee, the Program Committee, and the Local Organizing Committee, who contributed to the success of the conference together.

Motohiro Kihara
Chairman of the APAC98 Local Organizing Committee