

Welcoming Address of Conference Chairman

Distinguished Egyptian and Foreign Scientists and Guests Ladies and Gentlemen

It gives me pleasure in the name of the Egyptian Physics Association (ENPA) to welcome your presence at the 2nd Environmental Physics Conference EPC' 06 at the wonderful City of Alexandria at these pleasant, however some what cold days of February. Alexandria city is named after its founder known conqueror Alexander the Great, and by famous its well known contribution to world's history, culture and science. It symbolizes coexistence of civilizations on the south of Mediterranean.

It gives me pleasure to thank Prof. Dr. Mohammad Abdella President of Alexandria University and famous Egyptian politician former speaker of Foreign Relations Committee at the Egyptian People's Assembly, for his kind support that made the organization of the EPC conference here possible.

The generous support of the Egyptian Atomic Energy Authority to the conference is highly acknowledged. We thank our colleagues scientists and researchers from EAEA for their valuable contribution to the conference.

The sincere support of Prof. Dr. Samir Nasr Dean of the Graduate Studies and Research Institute of the Alexandria University -and his colleagues in the Institute- was indispensable, for which I would like to thank.

Thanks also to you our dear participants and attendees, without your presence the conference would be of no value. Your presence on the land of Alexandria, the ancient Egyptian pearl, famous by its long and glorious history, is highly valued and we look forward seeing you at our coming events too.

The aim of the conference is to promote physics within the context of the environmental sciences. This is achieved by providing a forum for the discussion of physics as it applies to the environment and encouraging the development and application of physical methods to environmental research.

Environmental issues in Egypt are numerous. They include: population growth, loss of agricultural land, soil salinisation and erosion, water pollution, air pollution in major cities, coastline and marine degradation, and others.

The EPC conference you attend is organized with the presence of participants from Egypt and nine other countries from 4 continents: Africa, America, Asia, and Europe. The number of submitted contributions is 78. Presentations to be delivered cover 13 scientific sessions during the 4 working days of the conference. A workshop is organized on the role of Physics in preserving environment.

The topics of the sessions include: surface and ground water, soil and plants, air and climate, natural radioactivity, nuclear techniques, detection

methods, innovative technologies, and environmental management

We hope that discussions, exchange of ideas and experience will help in more deep understanding of the factors behind the problems of our environment, and how to solve them. This should be reflected in our collaborative work aiming at better and healthier environment for present and future generations. Your comments and recommendations will be of high value to us.

Once more I welcome your attendance wishing you beneficial conference time, good stay in Alexandria and happy return home.

Thank you.

Prof.Dr. M.N.H. Comsan
Conference Chairman