IMS 1999

Since the Institute for Molecular Science was founded in 1975, almost a quarter of a century has past and we will celebrate 21st century in two years. Over the past 25 years, IMS has played an important role for the development of fundamental research in the field of molecular science and has given appreciable influence upon the research fields related to molecular science. As is clearly understood from the Annual Review for 1999, IMS maintains high activity and quality of research.

In this annual review, recent development of researches in 6 departments and six research facilities of IMS will be introduced. At the end of the booklet, result of the joint study programs which is one of the important functions of IMS, will be reported. This review also clarifies that IMS nowadays is covering wide range of molecular systems from simple atom systems to complex biomolecule systems. Regarding time and energy domains, IMS now covers wide range



of time scale down to femto-second and wide range of energy from soft x-ray to far infrared region. For the further development of molecular science in IMS, we need intimate interactions with surrounding sciences such as solid state physics, environmental science, and life science.

This year, new research project for bio-environmental science has started by the collaboration of three research institutes at Okazaki.

It is one of the most important tasks for IMS to develop new feature of molecular science by the interactions with the groups of different scientific field.

September, 1999

KAYA, Koji **Director General**