

## International Union of Materials Research Societies Established

The International Materials Research Committee (IMRC), a planning body recently formed to develop an umbrella organization for materials societies worldwide, took the next step in that direction. During the 1990 MRS Fall Meeting, IMRC delegates met and unanimously voted to upgrade the committee's status to that of a full-fledged union with the name *International Union of Materials Research Societies*.

A major step in international cooperation, IUMRS is the first such body for the materials field worldwide. The Union will serve materials research activities around the world in a manner comparable to the roles played by IUPAC and IUPAP for the chemistry and physics disciplines.

Nearly 30 delegates and observers from Australia, Brazil, China-Beijing, China-Taiwan, France, Germany, Great Britain, India, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, United States, and U.S.S.R. were present. The delegates represented the eight "Founding Adhering Bodies" of the organization, which include the Materials Research Society (MRS); the European Materials Research Society (E-MRS); the Materials Research Society of Japan (MRS-J); the Materials Research Society of India (MRS-India); the Mexican Materials Research Society (Mexican-MRS); the Australian Materials Research Committee; the Chinese Joint Committee of Societies for Materials (C-MRS, Beijing, China); and the Chinese Society for Materials Science specifically representing Taiwan, China.

Representatives reported on a wide range of international activities that have been organized under the aegis of the IMRC. Prof. Minko Balkanski (France) announced the International Conference on Advanced Materials to be held May 27-31, 1991 in Strasbourg, France. Dr. Claude Sombret (France) announced the International Symposium on the Scientific Basis



*IMRC delegates and international representatives meet during the 1990 MRS Fall Meeting. Seated (left to right): M. Doyama, H-D. Li, P. Siffert, and V.M. Castano; standing (left to right): S. Campisano, R.G. Elliman, R.P.H. Chang, P.T. Wu, V.N. Mordkovich, and C.W. White.*

for Nuclear Waste Management to be sponsored by MRS, E-MRS, and the CEA in Strasbourg on November 5-8, 1991. In other parts of the world, the Mexican-MRS was officially established and elected its first officers: Dr. M. José Yacamán, president; Dr. D. Rios, vice president; Dr. L. Martinez, secretary; and Dr. V. Castano, treasurer. The Materials Research Society of Korea was also initiated and began accepting members as of December 1990, with the full intention of becoming an IUMRS Adhering Body.

In addition to establishing the new Union, the delegates unanimously adopted bylaws to accompany the statutes adopted one year earlier in Boston. With the statutes and bylaws, IUMRS has established

its operating procedures as well as the means to raise funds through the Adhering Bodies in order to support international activities and meetings.

The officers of the IUMRS are Prof. R.P.H. Chang of Northwestern University, president; Prof. Paul Siffert, Centre de Recherches Nucléaires, vice president; Prof. Rod Ewing, University of New Mexico, secretary; and Prof. Shigeyuki Sōmiya, Nishi Tokyo University, treasurer. During the coming year, IUMRS will establish international commissions to oversee its activities.

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