23rd Slovenian-Croatian Crystallographic Meeting, SCCM23, Hotel Plesnik, Logarska dolina, Slovenia, June 18 – 22, 2014

Closing remarks, June 21, 2014

Dear ladies and gentlemen, dear crystallographers, dear friends,

well, it is my turn now to say several words at the closing point of our Meeting, SCCM23, on behalf of the organizers, the Slovenian Crystallographic Society and the Croatian Crystallographic Association, as well as on behalf of my friends, the Chair Professor Anton Meden and the Honorary Chair Professor Ivan Leban. This meeting has been organized under the auspices of the Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Technology, University of Ljubljana, and promoted by the Slovenian Chemical Society. We are now to say *Good bye* and *Good luck* to each other.

Let me cite several first lines from the web site: "Every year the crystallographers from different countries meet at the annual *Slovenian-Croatian* or *Croatian-Slovenian* crystallographic meeting to present their work and exchange the ideas in multiple areas of research involving crystallography."

This Meeting celebrates **2014**, **the International Year of Crystallography**. It has been held in a beautiful and green valley, the Logar Valley, surrounded by snowy peaks of the Kamnik and Savinja Alps, Ojstrica, Planjava, Brana, Turska Gora, Skuta, Grintovec, Kočna, Raduha, Olševa, some of which are higher than 2500 m. This is really one of the most picturesque parts of Slovenia. I hope all of us have enjoyed our stay here in a splendid isolation from civilization.

This Meeting, I hope you share my opinion, has been very successful, scientifically and socially, offering a friendly and domestic atmosphere. We have listened to five plenary lectures, dealing with modern approaches in crystallography:

Tonči Balić-Žunić, Crystallography in mineralogy in the 21st century;

Marijana Đaković, From molecular structure to crystalline solids: non-covalent interactions as a structure directing force in supramolecular assemblies;

John S.O. Evans, Functional inorganic materials: synthesis, structure, properties and methods development;

Gregor Gunčar, A structural view of nanobodies;

Ivana Radosavljević Evans, Structural chemistry of functional materials: mobility in the solid state.

Thirty three short oral contributions of high scientific level have been presented with different but contemporary topics in crystallography, including both data acquisition and interpretation. There have been papers in different fields of crystallography, such as macromolecules, organic, organometallic and inorganic compounds, crystal architecture, metallurgy, solid solutions, phase transitions, small angle scattering, nanocrystallography, structure and properties, synergy of diffraction, microscopy and other methods, history and nomenclature, and so on. The presentations at this Meeting have proved again that the impact of Crystallography on Science and Society is great. Being crystallographers, we notice structural motifs everywhere. A very important point of this Meeting is the participation of many young scientists, who will promote crystallography in the future.

I would like to express our gratitude to the general lecturers and to all of you who have come here to attend this Meeting. There have been 58 active participants and accompanying persons from 7 countries, is spite of the severe lack of financing the scientific projects. We would also like to express our thankfulness to the sponsor partners, who have helped to hold this Meeting; without their help the Meeting would not be possible with zero registration fee. And, the Croatian part of the Organizing Committee, as well as all of us, would like to express our gratitude to the Slovenian part of the Committee, Amalija Golobič, Marta Kasunič, Nina Lah, Andrej Pevec, Miha Trdin and Maja Vidmar, lead by Anton Meden, for the marvellous job which has been done in preparation of the Meeting. This Meeting is a proof that we should continue in the same way in the future.

During the present Meeting we experienced a very nice sunny and rainy excursion around the Logar Valley, and enjoyed its beauty created by the Mother Nature.

Now, let me announce our next, 24th Croatian-Slovenian Crystallographic Meeting, CSCM24. As all of you already know, the 29th European Crystallographic Meeting, ECM29, will be held the next year, 2015, in August from 23 to 29, in Rovinj. The organizer of the ECM29 is the Croatian Association of Crystallographers (chaired by Aleksandar Višnjevac, the secretary being Marijana Đaković), a group of crystallographers emerged from the Croatian Crystallographic Association. As our CSCM's and SCCM's have been traditionally held in the middle of June, it appears that there is no reason to organize CSCM24 two months before the ECM29. The Croatian Crystallographic Association proposes to organize CSCM24 in September 2016, in Bol, on the island of Brač, together with the 3rd European Crystallographic

School, ECS3, which will be organized by the Croatian Association of Crystallographers. Bol is a small town but is a famous tourist resort, in the central part of the Croatian Adriatic. It can be reached by the ferryboat from Split. The crystallographers in Croatia cordially invite all of you to attend the next meetings, ECM29 and CSCM24. We also appeal to you to bring your friends and co-workers to attend these meetings. We also invite young scientists to attend the ECS3 at the same place.

At the end, thank you so much for your participation here and have a happy and pleasant journey home. *Good bye* and *good luck* until the next crystallographic meetings in Croatia, ECM29, CSCM24 and ECS3.

Stanko Popović