



The meeting "The other face of biotechnology" is a continuation of our initiatives started a few years ago aimed to correlate the development of the new technology with related problems, including intellectual property rights, public perception, biosafety and biohazard and teaching. The preliminary title of the conference was "peripherals of biotechnology". However, in the course of time we found these problems of fundamental importance for harmonic development of the entire biotechnology.

The deliberations in this conference deal with many very important and quite controversial topics of biotechnology. The intellectual property rights implications have already been the subject of many seminars organised around the world. Public perception of genetic engineering is one of the hottest issues concerning today's science. The expectations of the society towards biotechnology are great. However, many of us are afraid of the negative outcome. Hopefully, the scientific discussion, opening our research to the general public and the self control of scientists will protect all of us against any form of biohazard. Biosafety is of key importance. Last but not least: the educa-

tion. Only an educated society is able to continue research and to apply science into industry.

I would like to express the deep appreciation of the Organizing Committee to all speakers for accepting the invitation, to the European Commission, European Federation of Biotechnology, Polish Microbiological Society and the Committee of Biotechnology for their patronage and to the Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry for its hospitality.

Tomasz Twardowski
Chairman of the Organising Committee

