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PREFACE

This volume contains the invited papers and a transcript of the final panel discussion in the First Scientific Conference of the International Global Atmospheric Chemistry (IGAC) Project, held in Eilat, Israel from April 18–22, 1993. The conference was hosted by the Israeli Institute for Biological Research (IIBR) and was the 37th in the prestigious OHOLO Conference series in Israel.

The conference was devoted to the subject of "Global Atmospheric-Biospheric Chemistry" and was a landmark event in this area. It provided the first comprehensive report of progress under IGAC toward improving our understanding of the chemical and biological processes that determine the changing composition of the earth's atmosphere. This work is an essential component of the comprehensive International Geosphere-Biosphere Program (IGBP) devoted to measuring and understanding global changes in the past and present, and predicting the future evolution of our planet.

I want to devote this brief foreword to thanking several people who worked especially hard to make the conference a success and who helped to produce this volume as a record of the event. Paul Crutzen, Amram Golombek, Pamela Matson and Henning Rodhe did sterling service on the conference organizing committee. Special thanks go to Amram Golombek and Dr. Cohen, the Director of IIBR, who hosted the event in Israel. Anne Slinn did an excellent job in producing the Abstract book and helping with administrative matters. Alex Pszenny helped capably to critically review the Abstracts. Linda Kubrick worked tirelessly on travel arrangements and made sure that nobody got lost.

Several organizations provided financial or other support for the First IGAC Scientific Conference, specifically the U.S. National Science Foundation, the IGAC Core Project Office, the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the International Geosphere-Biosphere Program, the Israel Institute for Biological Research (37th OHOLO Conference), the European IGAC Project Office, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Israel Ministry of Tourism. I thank these organizations for their help and support, which enabled the conference to proceed so well.

Finally, and most important, two people have played essential roles in producing this book: Alex Pszenny critically reviewed the papers enabling many substantive improvements, and very special thanks go to Anne Slinn who carefully checked each paper and produced the final page proofs.

Ronald G. Prinn
Cambridge, MA, 1994

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