

FOREWORD

The 16th Mining Congress of Turkey organized by the Chamber of Mining Engineers was held between 15-18 June 1999 at the National Library in Ankara.

With ever increasing foreign participation, the congress has gained a true international character. A total of 62 papers were presented at the congress, 35 of them were from within Turkey, 27 from abroad. Together with the panel discussion on "Mining Strategies for the 21st Century" these presentations allowed mining professionals to exchange ideas in a very lively atmosphere.

The Proceedings of the previous 15 congress have become valuable references for researchers and engineers. It is our sincere hope that the findings of these studies can be put to use.

Every organization of this size entails the contribution of many parties. Private and public companies and institutions, scientists and engineers from within Turkey and abroad, members of executive committee of the Congress and the staff of the Chamber have all provided valuable support for the success of the Congress. We thank them all.

Prof. Dr. Umit ATALAY
Chairman of the Congress

Asım KUTLU ATA
Chairman of the Chamber Mining Engineers