Welcome

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, Scientific Committee, and the Dioxin Symposia and PCB Workshop International Advisory Boards, it is with great pleasure that we welcome you to Kraków for the 38th International Symposium on Halogenated Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) - DIOXIN 2018 & 10th International PCB Workshop.

The year 2018 marks the 100th anniversary of the regaining of independence by Poland. The country rebirth occurred in 1918 after 123 years of occupation and enslavement of the nation by three big invaders.

The Dioxin Symposium and International PCB Workshop are recognized as the leading international POPs meetings for scientists and regulators. This year, apart from the International PCB Workshop, the Dioxin Symposium will also host the Pre-Dioxin Students Session "All POPs & Pseudo-POPs", four major Special Sessions (*Legacy and Emerging Fluorinated Organic Compounds Update; Biodetection Methods for POPs and Related Food and Environmental Contaminants; Progress in Industrial Technology to Fight Pollution from POPs, Analytical Methods and Risk of Human and Veterinary Pharmaceuticals that can act as pseudo-POPs*) and other special and traditional sessions throughout the meeting.

Dioxin 2018 highly promotes the involvement of industry in fighting POP pollution and interaction of industry representatives with potential and existing customers and clients in all areas of investigation: analytical, regulatory, exposure assessment, and toxicological aspects relating to Persistent Organic Pollutants. Therefore, the message of the DIOXIN 2018 is: **no boundaries in POPs pollution, research and control**.

Symposium will be held in the heart of downtown Kraków. The site for the Students - Pre-Dioxin Session: "All POPs & Pseudo-POPs" will be the facility of the University of Science and Technology (Akademia Górniczo Hutnicza; AGH - UST), the core Symposium will be held at the ICE Kraków Congress Centre and at the Auditorium Maximum, Jagiellonian University (final day). There are numerous restaurants, museums, historical jewels, the old Jewish suburb Kazimierz, theatres, and other attractions within walking distance. Generally, Kraków and the region are highly attractive for tourists and a spacious Kraków historical downtown is crowded in the summer time. We hope that you participate in Dioxin 2018 and look forward to welcoming you to Kraków.

All important details and dates are presented on the conference website - <u>www.dioxin2018.org</u> that will be updated regularly.

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