

PREFACE

In 1997, Kalmar was celebrating the 600th anniversary of the union between the Nordic Countries. More than 200 seminars and conferences as held during that historical celebration in Kalmar. The seminar on Waste Management and the Environment - Establishment of cooperation between Nordic countries and countries in the Baltic Sea region was held in November that year. The seminar was considered very successful and I was asked to organise the seminar again and try to make it to tradition with a return period of 2 year.

This second seminar was held under the title Kalmar ECO-TECH'99 - Seminar on Ecological Technology and Management. The effort during this seminar was not only to built bridge of knowledge and information between the countries and over the Baltic Sea but also between the Nature and Technology sciences as well as between researchers/teachers, engineers in companies/industries, city engineers and administrators dealing with environmental issues. Emphasis have been directed towards representative of the small and medium size enterprises and include them as speakers or participators of the seminar.

During the seminar future trends in water and waste management, and how to implement environmental projects and a network for environmentally technology development in the Baltic Region was discussed. The participants from the different countries represent a huge amount theoretical and practical knowledge. The seminar should be seen as a forum for exchange of existing knowledge in an optimal way and make it possible to transform it to cost beneficial and environmental friendly technical solutions improving the pollutant situation in the Baltic Sea region. The exchange of knowledge and technical know-how shall create a base for future cooperation between the countries.

The programme committee that have planned the seminar has included participants from 10 countries. On behalf of University of I want to thank the speakers for their contributions as well as the audiences for making the activities successful through interesting lectures and fruitful discussions. I also want to thank those who participate the poster session and the exhibition.

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