Dear Colleagues:

It is an honor and a great pleasure to welcome you to the Fifth International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research being held at the Marriott Hotel in Jackson, Mississippi, USA, from September 14 to 17, 2008. This important event will be the fifth World Congress held in Jackson, MS, USA, on important issues related to environmental quality and human health.

This symposium is a contribution to global research and education in the exciting field of Environmental Science and Public Health. Its over-arching objective is to promote interdisciplinary discussions and international scientific collaborations, as well as to increase awareness of important environmental and public health issues facing our state, nation, and the global community.

This year, we are expecting colleagues from 20 different countries, representing all five continents. The scientific program is composed of seven plenary sessions where oral/platform presentations will be given by 45 invited speakers. In addition, there will be two poster sessions - one for faculty and professional scientists, and one for students - with more than 150 abstracts. Both plenary lectures and poster presentations will deal with many crucial issues, such as environmental toxicology and health risk assessment; nanoscience, nanotechnology and nanotoxicology; emerging issues in computational biology and environmental modeling; environmental geology and human health; new frontiers in environmental health research; natural resources damage assessment and management; and health disparities and environmental security.

We are very excited about this international symposium, and believe that it provides a strong forum to communicate the latest advances in scientific research and new developments on issues related to environmental quality and human health.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all the participants at this international symposium, and to our colleagues and staff who have worked very hard to make it successful. We invite all of you to take advantage of this unique opportunity, enjoy its scientific program, and meet friends and colleagues. Together, we will make this symposium a marvelous scientific and social event.

We look forward to the opportunity to personally meet each of you in Jackson!!!

Paul B. Tchounwou, Sc.D., F.A.B.I., I.O.M.
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