

FOREWARD

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The Nonferrous Metals Society of China

On the occasion of the birth of the **TRANSACTIONS OF NONFERROUS METALS SOCIETY OF CHINA** (hereafter **Trans NFsoc**), I would like to express my hearty congratulations and extend my best wishes for its future successes.

Trans NFsoc is a comprehensive journal with emphasis on nonferrous metals, containing academic papers, and important scientific and technical achievements in the fields of nonferrous metals from geology, mining, ore dressing, metallurgy, physical and chemical analyses to materials science and engineering with aims to promote academic exchange, and speed up the development of science and technology of the nonferrous metals industry. Nonferrous metals are indispensable and essential materials for the social and economic development and people's life improvement. It is said that energy, telecommunication and materials are three principal industries for the advancement of modern civilization of mankind which are all closely related to nonferrous metals. The development of hi-tech depends in many ways on the progress of the nonferrous metals industries.

China is endowed by nature with abundant nonferrous metals resources. According to recent evaluation China is one of the countries which have the largest reserves of tungsten, rare earth, tin, antimony, zinc, lead, nickel, mercury, molybdenum and niobium etc. In 1949, China could only produce 8 kinds of nonferrous metals with a total output of 13000 ton. Presently, however, all the 64 kinds of nonferrous metals can be produced and a complete industrial system from geology, mining, metallurgy and processing has been established with a staff number of about 1.3 million including 130000 scientists and technicians. In 1990, the output of 10 common nonferrous metals (Al, Cu, Pb, Zn, Ni, Sb, Sn, Hg, Mg, Ti) reached 2.35 million ton ranking the fourth in the world correspondingly, considerable research achievements related to the nonferrous metals production have been obtained. For the sustained, steady and coordinate development of the nonferrous metals industry, we must rely on the progress of science and technology. I trust that the **Trans NFsoc** will play an active and motivating role in this task.

I sincerely hope that all members of the Nonferrous Metals Society of China, all scientists and technicians in the fields of nonferrous metals and our colleagues abroad will give their concern and support to the **Trans NFsoc** and help it meet a success with its own characteristics.