

FOREWORD

THOMAS R. ODHIAMBO

The International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE)
P. O. Box 30772, Nairobi, Kenya

The African Association of Insect Scientists (AAIS) was founded in 1978, with the main objective of promoting and advancing knowledge on all aspects of insect science in Africa. It does this by publishing the AAIS Bulletin, convening conferences from time to time, and co-sponsoring the publication of the international bi-monthly journal, *Insect Science and its Application*. The AAIS-organized international conferences have always been held on topical issues pertaining to significant areas of insect science in the tropics. Earlier conferences and symposia dealt with such issues as taxonomic studies in Africa and high-level training in insect science and pest management. More recent conferences, often held biennially, were convened sequentially in Ghana, Nigeria, Egypt, Liberia, Senegal and Zambia.

The theme of the conference held in Dakar, Senegal in 1987 was "Integrated Pest Management and Environmental Conservation", while that in Lusaka, Zambia in 1989 was on the theme, "Insect Pests and Sustainable Food

Production in Africa". These conferences brought together scientists from many parts of Africa, irrespective of the usual linguistic and cultural barriers, in an effort to take stock, collate and put forward ideas for solving Africa's numerous insect and related problems affecting crops and livestock production as well as human health in the tropical environment. The Proceedings of these two conferences have been brought together in one issue of the journal, so as to bring into focus some of the recent research findings that would otherwise have constituted part of the grey literature.

The Proceedings are being published in two parts. Part 1 will reflect the theme and papers presented at the Dakar conference, while Part 2 will reflect the theme and papers presented at the Lusaka conference. Only a selection of some of the papers presented at the two conferences are being published.

I wish to thank the Guest Editors for doing a difficult job well.