Ladies and Gentlemen,

The 13th Convention of the Polish Society of Nuclear Medicine has become a history. It was held from 19th to 22nd September 2012 in a friendly place of Targi Kielce S.A., the state of the art trade fair, exhibition and congress centre.

The essential issues of the Convention had been divided into 16 independent scientific sessions which were dedicated to different medical branches cooperating in the process of patient diagnosis and treatment such as: oncological surgery, cardiology, neurology and neurosurgery, oncology, radiotherapy, paediatrics, endocrinology, urology, thoracic surgery, gynaecology, oncological haematology and to different technical branches as nuclear medicine cooperates with a variety of related areas, among them: pharmacology, radiochemistry, biotechnology, physics, molecular biology, engineering and instrumentation. Such planning allowed large groups of health service specialists to take part in all or selected sessions of the Convention. The sessions were the presentation forum for the achievements of cooperation of nuclear medicine with other branches of medicine.

The scientific sessions were chaired and provided by 43 renowned specialists of particular branches of medicine from the leading Polish centres. Additionally, the group of 40 invited speakers developed good relationships and a dialogue which resulted in establishing new procedures and standardizing already existing ones. 53 abstracts out of the total number of 142 received by organisers were classified as oral presentations and 49 of them were presented as posters.

During the Convention, there was also an unusual occasion to attend lectures delivered by the invited, well-known special guests from the leading nuclear medicine centres in Europe. Marion de Jong from Erasmus MC Rotterdam in the Netherlands gave a talk entitled “Novel Peptide Analogues Targeting CCK and GRP Receptors Overexpressed in Different Tumour Types. Preclinical and First Clinical Findings”. The newest report concerning “Translational Molecular Neuroimaging” was presented by Balazs Gulyas from Karolinska Institute in Stockholm. “Hybrid Imaging: PET/CT and SPECT/CT in the Diagnosis of Infection and Inflammation” was described by Zohar Keidar from Rambam Medical Center in Haifa and the talk concerning “Targets and Peptide-Based Radioligands for the Imaging and Targeted Radionuclide Therapy of Neuroendocrine Neoplasms” was given by Helut Maecke from University Hospital Freiburg.

Each participant could notice that nuclear medicine has undergone tremendous development in the field of both diagnosis and therapy during the last two decades.

I give a special thanks to the sponsors of our Convention, i.e. Siemens — platinum sponsor; Eckert&Ziegler FCON, Philips — gold sponsors; Iason, Mediso Polska, Polatom — silver sponsors; Canberra Packard, GE Healthcare, Voxel — bronze
sponsors. Thanks to their generous help, we could organise our meeting and additional friendly events.

I am especially proud of the fact that during our meeting PET/MRI 3T hybrid scanner, Siemens newest technology was presented for the first time in Poland. The tool brings a good turn to molecular imaging, giving the ability to make unprecedented progress in diagnosing and treating. Now, it is possible to perform structural and functional imaging at the same time. During the Congress it was also possible to attend the workshop about clinical experience with integrated simultaneous PET/MR imaging.

Additionally, as a Chairman of the Convention, I am satisfied that it was possible to organise the Fair of Medical Diagnostics and Therapeutic Equipment and Appliances "Medicine of XXI Century". There were 37 independent exhibitors presenting the latest technical achievements in the area of our interest.

Also, the General Meeting of the Polish Society of Nuclear Medicine to approve the new statute took place during the Convention. I hope that you enjoyed a good organisation and good atmosphere during the Convention and during the welcome and farewell parties, and that artistic performances of Kielce Dance Theatre with their programme "Niemen" and of Fermata Choir with the project "Grechuta" measured up to your expectations.

I believe, that the city of Kielce, scenically located in central Poland, was an ideal venue for holding the 13th PSNM Convention, and you could enjoy many of the tourist attractions in its vicinity. Some of you decided for the tourist excursion to the Benedictine monastery of Holy Cross (Święty Krzyż) on the last day of the Convention. I trust that you took good memories from Kielce and found it pleasant to spend your free time here.

I send my best greetings to the organizers of the 14th Convention of the PSNM in Lublin. Now it is their turn to write a new chapter in the history of our meetings. Therefore, I wish them a lot of patience during next Convention preparations, the generosity of the sponsors and a lot of active participants.

I want to say thank you to all the participants and give my exceptional Christmas greetings and best wishes for the coming New Year.

Prof. Janusz Braziewicz
Chairman of the Organizing Committee