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## **Preface**

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The following section of the *International Journal of Nanotechnology* (IJNT) is a selection of papers presented at Energy, Materials & Nanotechnology (EMN) meetings. They focus on a wide spectrum of subjects concerning energy science, materials science, and nanotechnology, which had been continuously held in Asia, USA and Europe during the year of 2015. These conferences were co-organised by leading universities and research institutions all over the world. The objective of EMN meetings is to promote a high quality interdisciplinary dialogue about the actual progress, promises and implications of energy science, materials science, and nanotechnology, seeking to contribute to decisions of national and international importance concerning the optimisation and distribution of benefits, definition of responsibilities and reduction of unnecessary and unwanted costs.

This special section for IJNT consists of 19 contributions from Asia, Europe and USA, and intends to provide a picture of the recent basic and applied achievements on various important aspects of energy science, materials science, and nanotechnology for present and future industrial applications. Many types of nanomaterials have been fabricated and their properties are studied, including gold nanoparticles, silver nanoclusters, FePt nanomaterials, TiO<sub>2</sub>-based nanostructures, InP nanorod, nanostructured complex oxides thin films, etc. Their accomplished and potential applications in all sorts of fields, such as supercapacitors, superconductors, water purifying, optoelectronic devices, gas sensors, dye-sensitised solar cells, photoelectrochemistry, magnetoelectronics, and piezoelectrics are discussed. The detailed conditions for material synthesis, property characterisation, and device fabrication have also been investigated and are summarised both theoretically and experimentally.

In closing, we would like to express our gratitude to all authors, reviewers, and the members of the organising committee, who have made this special section possible. Thanks are also owed to the sponsors for their financial support. We appreciate the encouragement and support from the Editorial board and staff of IJNT, throughout the entire editorial process. We hoped that this IJNT special section will serve as a good reference material and be of great use for researchers in the field of energy science, materials science, and nanotechnology.