

## **PREFACE**

*The 14th Coal Congress of Turkey organized Branch of the Chamber of Mining Engineers of Turkey is held between June 02 and 04, 2004 in Zonguldak. The primary objective of the Coal Congress which has been held biannually since 1978 is to promote and support the information exchange related to coal mining and technology. The Congress takes place at the congress and exhibition hall of Zonguldak Karaelmas University, where the Mining Machinery and Equipment Exhibition is also open to delegates during the Congress.*

*During the technical sessions, 29 papers which have selected by the Scientific Committee will be presented and these are printed in the Proceedings of the Congress. In addition, 3 invited papers prepared by the experts are included in the Congress Programme.*

*A special panel titled "The status of mining sector following the globalization and privatization policies " will be held during the congress in the panel, present and future projections of the privatization policies and applications in Turkey as well as in developing countries will be discussed while a special emphasis will be given to the coal mining sector.*

*We acknowledge the fact that the success of this Congress is due to the efforts of the Organizing Committee, Scientific Committee, chair of the technical sessions and authors of the papers. As a final note, we would like to thank to every person, institution and company who have contributed to the realization of the 14th Coal Congress of Turkey.*

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