

## Opening statement

Peter Lawatz

President, Technical University of Denmark

On behalf of the Technical University of Denmark (Danmarks Tekniske Højskole) it is a great pleasure for me to welcome all the participants of the 6th International Conference on "Alkalis in Concrete" on our campus.

Although the topic of the conference is rather far away from my own field, I can appreciate its relevance from discussions at the University as well as through articles in the daily newspapers and by direct personal observation of existing concrete structures. The immense use of concrete as a building material emphasizes the problems you will be considering.

In Denmark, much of the readily accessible raw material for concrete is very "favourable" for alkali reactions and thus produces particularly severe problems to be studied and solved through national cooperation between university research and private activities in real life.

It is gratifying to observe here that the problems and the interest are shared on an international scale so that combined efforts and exchange of information may lead to better and faster results.

Let me open the conference by wishing all of you a fruitful conference and a pleasant stay during the coming days.

