Preface to first bilateral workshop COSMIC-RAD

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It is a pleasure for Institute of Modern Physics (IMP) to host the First Bilateral Workshop on Cosmic Rays and Radiobiology in a China–Italy Network Strategy. This workshop intended to establish space radiation collaboration between the two countries in the future. It was supported greatly by IMP, Tsinghua University, Medical College of Soochow University, South China Agricultural University, Tianchen Space Biology and Medicine form Chinese side, and by National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA), University of Florence, University of Rome, University of Perugia and National Institute for Nuclear Physics from Italian side. The workshop has successfully provided a great opportunity for the scientists to communicate and has promoted the potential collaboration on micro-dosimetry and radiobiology of cosmic rays between the institutions and universities from China and Italy. I do appreciate for this great effort, especially on the occasion of the 55th anniversary of the funding of IMP, which is the biggest research center for heavy ion science and its application in China. It has been demonstrated in the past

decades that fast progress and a lot of outstanding scientific achievements have been made in the research frontiers of heavy ion nuclear physics, atomic physics, material science and radiobiology at IMP with the heavy ion accelerator complex—Heavy Ion Research Facility in Lanzhou (HIRFL).

I was very much impressed by those presentations at the workshop, such as “Radiation Biology: ENEA experimental activities” presented by Drs. Carmela MARINO and “Solid-state diamond dosimeters for radiobiology and space applications” presented by Dr. Emanuele PACE. These presentations demonstrated that our Italian friends have played a significant role in the European International Space Station activities. I must mention that all of us were very happy to witness the signing of the Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) and Academic Exchange Arrangement between IMP and ENEA, IMP and University of Florence, which certainly will promote the further collaboration between China and Italy in space radiobiology field.

I would say that researches on micro-dosimetry and radiobiology of cosmic rays may not only contribute to the understanding of our universe, but also have been finding many significant applications in industry and human health. This booklet collects all the papers presented at the workshop and must be very interesting for those physicists, biologists and students as well as other interested scientists in scientific research community.

Finally, I would like to thank all the colleagues who were involved in the organization of the workshop and who are now coordinating the collaborations between both sides in China and Italy. I wish all of us have a prosperous future to deepen our knowledge of space exploration and develop new applications for the benefit of both Chinese and Italian research institutions.

This contribution is the written, peer-reviewed version of a paper presented at the workshop: Cosmic Rays and Radiobiology in a Sino-Italy Network Strategy: First Bilateral Workshop COSMIC-RAD held at Institute of Modern Physics, Chinese Academy of Science, in Lanzhou, Gansu Province, China on September 3–4, 2012.

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