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subgroup-supergroup transition

A transition in which the space-group symmetry of the lower symmetry phase is a subgroup of that of the higher symmetry phase. Example: The transition of the low-temperature polymorph of quartz characterized by space-group symmetry $P3_12$ (trigonal), to the high temperature polymorph of quartz with space-group symmetry, $P6_222$ (hexagonal). Synonymous with symmetry-breaking transition (note: this term, strictly speaking, is no longer in use).

Source:
PAC, 1994, *66*, 577 *(Definitions of terms relating to phase transitions of the solid state (IUPAC Recommendations 1994))* on page 591

