Editorial

Annals of Nutrition and Metabolism is the official journal of the Federation of European Nutrition Societies (FENS) and has come to be accepted as an integrating journal in the fields of nutrition, metabolic diseases and dietetics. Substantial credit for this is owed to the former editors, who developed and shaped the journal, especially to Professor Günther Wolfram, who was involved in the scientific management of the journal for almost 25 years and was the Editor-in-Chief from 1991 to December 1999. With him *Annals of Nutrition and Metabolism* achieved high regard and ranking among journals of similar scope. As his successor and on behalf of the publisher S. Karger AG, Switzerland, I want to thank him for his great and unselfish effort in developing the journal's internationally accepted form.

In the multidisciplinary fields of nutrition, metabolism and dietetics, we are witnessing a considerable accumulation of information achieved with methods originating in molecular and cell biology. Strengthening the traditional biochemistry of nutrition, these knowledge and methodological approaches will improve the understanding of the mode of action of food components and their role in health promotion and disease prevention.

Although the journal's form and to a lesser extent its structure will be modified, it will continue to focus on experimental clinical nutrition and dietetics in a broad sense. The main part will continue to comprise original papers, six to seven of which to appear in each edition. As educational contributions of the journal, review articles summarising important findings and outlining new fields of research will also appear. They will be either solicited or submitted spontaneously by authors who wish to review in areas of their expertise. Letters to the editor are also encouraged as they often give short but valuable additional information.

It is intended to keep publication time short by speeding up the review process. Together with the publisher we will do our best to achieve this goal. It is decided that *Annals of Nutrition and Metabolism* will be an international and independent journal and should attract contributors and readers from all over the world.

Vienna, January 2000

I. Elmadfa, Editor