Foreword

Charles Sultan President ESPE

It is both an honour and a great pleasure to host the 35th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Endocrinology, in the city of Montpellier, France, from 15th-18th September 1996.

On behalf of the Local Organising Committee, Programme Organising Committee and the Council of the ESPE, I would like to thank all those who have submitted abstracts for the programme. As in previous years, this Special Issue of Hormone Research contains a large number of abstracts (537 this year) from which 486 have been selected for presentation. This issue represents the largest number ever submitted for an ESPE meeting, and underlines the growing attractiveness of and interest in the ESPE.

I am most grateful to Karger Publishers for agreeing to publish our abstracts in this way. Montpellier is a medieval, modern and neo-classical city, which offers many interesting aspects. It is steeped in history, food and red wines, the architecture, mediterranean climate and sincere tolerance reflect the warm friendships and cultural opportunities to be savoured here.

A hearty welcome to all your members and guests coming from Western and Eastern Europe, the Middle and the Far East, Asia, Australia, Africa, North and South America. I hope you will enjoy your stay, that it will bring about fruitful scientific discussions and contacts, but that you will also leave with the rich unforgettable impressions of the Montpellier and Languedoc-Roussillon atmosphere.

VI