

EDITORIAL

Some years ago INE - Instituto Nacional de Estatística — launched a statistical journal, *Revista de Estatística / Statistical Review*, intended to fill the gap of scientific publication in the area of statistics, in Portuguese. This was thought, at the time, to be an important step towards the normalization of Portuguese scientific terms in the area. The editorial board, inspired by D.R. Cox authoritative paper on “The Current Position of Statistics” (*ISI Review*, 1997), also tried to bring together the academic and official statistics interests, through a careful planning of invited papers, and we feel happy to acknowledge that those initial goals have been fully accomplished.

When the editorial board decided to publish a special issue containing the extended abstracts of invited and contributed papers presented at the 23rd European Meeting of Statisticians, the time seemed to be ripe for internationalization: aside from the printing know-how, some of us had gained, under the leadership of Anthony Davison, experience in the editorial and refereeing process, and could make the first contacts to build up a sound editorial board during the meeting.

Under the invitation of INE, I have accepted in 2002 to take charge of the first steps of this new journal, REVSTAT. Together with the direction of INE, a rich board of associate editors has been chosen — and we take the opportunity to thank the very prompt and friendly response of the statistical community. This editorial board, representing a broad field of interests in Probability, Statistics and their applications, reflects our purpose of accepting contributions in any of these areas, basing our decisions only on creativity and merit, upon the recommendation of referees. The launching of REVSTAT has been slower than we would hope for, and we renew our invitation to all researchers in Probability, Statistics, or their applications, to consider REVSTAT as a suitable scientific journal to publish their achievements. Our commitment is to deal with submissions fast, and to guarantee quality of the new journal through the appraisal of expert referees.

Once again, in my name and in the name of INE, thanks to all those who generously have donated their time and efforts to this enterprise.

M. Ivette Gomes