

# Foreword

*Jan van den Akker*

Welcome to the CIDREE yearbook for 2010, *Beyond Lisbon 2010: perspectives from research and development for education policy in Europe*.

Every yearbook is special, but this volume is particularly special. Not only is this our 10th yearbook but it also highlights the celebration of CIDREE's 20th anniversary. Moreover, it is a fairly ambitious book. The title refers to a big theme that effectively captures the mission of all national CIDREE institutions: contributing through research and development to educational policy-making. It underlines the supranational, European challenge. We all work on more or less similar tasks and there is a lot to learn from one another.

Under the general heading, the various chapters address an interesting diversity of educational issues (as clearly introduced by Sheila Stoney in her editorial overview), from the effects of globalisation to measuring efficiency. The authors have been encouraged to both reflect on the past and to look to the future. And all have been encouraged to include a personal perspective. It did help that they were invited to write about a topic that characterises their work and experience, perhaps even their own professional mission and passions. And, of course, the scope and quality of the writings illustrate that the authors are, or have been, in leadership positions in national agencies and often, also, on a European level. Broad and stimulating visions are presented.

This book will be a rich addition to our anniversary conference in Oxford's academic setting in November 2010. However, I am sure it will also have an impact beyond this: at later stages other readers from policy as well as research and development will find inspiration in the writings.

At this point, I would like to express our sincere thanks to the excellent work of Sheila Stoney, the yearbook's editor. Having been a long-time prominent CIDREE colleague, she has been an inspiring, careful and able editor. And, of course, our thanks also go to all the authors who have contributed to this very memorable CIDREE yearbook.

*Jan van den Akker*

*CIDREE President 2009–2010*

*Director General SLO (Netherlands Institute for Curriculum Development)*