Preface
John Hutchins

The EAMT workshops held in the past three years have been devoted to exploring the practicalities of using machine translation software and other computer-based translation tools in organisations. In these environments, translation has to be seen by management as a positive enhancement to the promotion and sales of company products. For those involved in the provison of company translations the cost-effective exploitation of the most appropriate translation software and the careful design of operational workflows are of crucial importance. At the 1997 workshop in Copenhagen, it was decided that the meeting in Geneva should focus on the integration of MT and translation tools in the overall documentation workflow.

The proceedings published in this volume include all the papers (with one exception) presented at the workshop in Geneva in April 1998, plus one paper submitted but not presented (the description of PARS by Mikhael Blekhman) and three presentations not originally included in the programme. These are the three papers from Paul Kaeser, Jacqueline van Wees and Thorsten Mehnert. Our thanks to all the speakers for making this workshop as successful and informative as the preceding workshops, and to Olivier Pasteur and his colleagues at WHO for the local arrangements in Geneva.

An important feature of all the EAMT Workshops has been the extensive and fruitful discussion sessions. At Geneva there were two discussion periods, one led by Viggo Hansen and the second by Dimitrios Theologitis. We would have liked to have included reports on both, but in the event it was possible only to record the final session.

It has been decided that the next workshop in this series should take place in Prague, and that it should concentrate on the needs and problems of translation services in Central and Eastern Europe, particularly in the light of the forthcoming entry of countries into the European Union. Arrangements for this Workshop are now well in hand. It will take place at the Hotel Krystal in Prague on 22nd and 23rd April 1999, and is being organised by Eva Hajicova and colleagues at the Charles University. It promises to be a successful and enjoyable meeting, and we hope that many of those who have attended previous EAMT workshops will be able to be in Prague.