

## *CONFERENCE OPENING*

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a pleasure for me to welcome you in Pisa on behalf of the Advisory and Organizing Committees. The Committees planned this Workshop with two objectives:

- 1) To update the state of the research on BNCT worldwide and in particular in Europe, one year after the Essen Conference on the same subject;
- 2) To present progress achieved by Italian research groups active in the BNCT field to the community of oncologists and radiotherapists who could be using this therapy in the near future. In fact, as will be clear from the presentations in Session 3, only a few medical groups are at the moment engaged on BMCT research in Italy.

The Workshop will also function as introduction to the third Meeting of the young researchers in BNCT attending from all over the world. That Meeting, which will be held in this prestigious research Center during the next 3 days, will allow a free and rather informal exchange of information among participants.

As Chairman of the Organizing Committee, I should like to thank those Institutions and Organizations which have made possible this event: my University, the Clinical Physiology Institute of CNR (which hosts the Workshop), ENEA, colleagues of the Italian and foreign research groups. Last but not least the Pisa County Administration, hosting the reception at the end of the day to which participants of the forthcoming Young Specialist Meeting are also invited.

With auspices of a fruitful work in this and the next days, as well as of an excellent stay in Pisa, I declare open this Workshop on behalf of the Organizing Committee.

Prof. Marino Mazzini

*CHAIRMAN, ORGANISING AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES*