

# Foreword

*The Directive Board*

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This report presents a summary of the research activities of ITN during the year 2010 and includes details of the evolution in management, human resources, publications and budget of the last years of activity of ITN under authority of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education.

The ongoing economic crisis has had an obvious negative effect on the budgetary situation of most institutions and ITN has been one of them. Shortage of financial and human resources continue being the main difficulty and it was with a great effort

that ITN reached most of the objectives set for 2010.

As in the previous reports, the research activity of ITN is presented in this one considering each research unit and the scientific output is grouped under the different areas of activity.

A word of praise is again due to the scientific and non scientific staff of ITN that never failed helping the Directive Board in maintaining the tradition of excellence of this institution. All the work that was carried out in 2010 could not be possible without the outstanding quality and motivation of ITN staff.