

From the Editor

With this issue the **Arab Journal of Mathematical Sciences** enters a new phase of its short life. During the last sixteen years it relied on the editorial and technical support provided, on a voluntary basis, by staff members in the Department of Mathematics at King Saud University. Its printing costs were covered by the Saudi Association for Mathematical Sciences. We are indebted to both institutions for our existence and survival.

With this issue the AJMS will be published by Elsevier BV under a contract agreement with King Saud University. As part of the new arrangement, submission of articles will be online through Elsevier. The dates of issue will change from December and June to January and July, and the front cover has been redesigned. This will undoubtedly introduce more professionalism into the procedure, as it opens up new opportunities for international exposure. But it also poses new challenges for the editorial staff as we go through this transition.

We continue to strive to serve the mathematical community both here and in other countries through open exchange of ideas. We rely on the trust and support which we have enjoyed in the past from both authors and referees, the backbone of any scientific journal, and we look forward to many years of fruitful cooperation and service.