



# Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung

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To

- IIASA
- NMOs
- relevant funding agencies/governments

cc: **Germany intends to resume full membership in IIASA**

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

since the new Federal Minister for Education and Research, Mrs. E. Bulmahn has been taking office, a new round of discussion about rejoining IIASA was initiated.

Now, as the resignation of Director Prof. MacDonald gives a clear chance for a new uncontested leadership, the German government supports to resume full membership during the process of choosing a new director and restructuring IIASA accordingly.

Even through times of the reduced „affiliated status“ of Germany the interest for IIASA has been upheld in the scientific community in Germany which cares about the integrative dimension of global change research or, as it is now phrased, the „emerging agenda towards on science of sustainability“, where IIASA has a long record. IIASA therefore may have a new chance to be seen as a necessary „node or knot“ for major cooperative projects in the

international programs, where e. g. eminent scientist could reside with a young core group temporarily in a focal point for networking research and infrastructure.

To mobilize our scientists to become again convinced and attracted by IIASA we would like to have them actively involved in an open transparent process.

In addition I hope that the German intention helps to raise the interest of other European governments and science communities to strengthen the European engagement in IIASA. I would welcome contacts with officials in the countries concerned for a common approach. I therefore ask to help for possible contacts or meetings to promote this process. I would like to join in such efforts.

With best regards

i. A.

Hansvolker Ziegler  
Deputy Director General  
for environmental and socio-economic research

PS: The future contact point for the German NMO will be the Secretariat of the WBGU (Advisory Council on Global Change for the German Federal Government). General Secretary Prof. Schulz-Baldes, e-mail: [schuba@wbgu.de](mailto:schuba@wbgu.de), WBGU is chaired by Prof. H. Grassl.

As I am out of office from 15.2. to 2.3. please address Dr. Petrikowski ([frank.petrikowski@bmbf.bund.de](mailto:frank.petrikowski@bmbf.bund.de)).