



The Assistant Director-General  
for Natural Sciences

United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

Organisation  
des Nations Unies  
pour l'éducation,  
la science et la culture

Organización  
de las Naciones Unidas  
para la Educación,  
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация  
Объединенных Наций по  
вопросам образования,  
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة  
للترقية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、  
科学及文化组织



To:  
National Commissions for UNESCO  
Permanent Delegations to UNESCO

cc:  
UNESCO Field Offices

17 April 2015

Ref.: Ref: SC/PCB/SPP/FWIS/16

Subject: **L'ORÉAL–UNESCO Awards For Women in Life Sciences (2016)**

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are pleased to inform you that, within the framework of the For Women in Science partnership between the L'Oréal Foundation and UNESCO, we have launched the 2016 call for nominations for outstanding women scientists from all over the world. Five €100,000 Prizes will be awarded in March 2016 in Paris to five women scientists for the contributions of their research, the strength of their commitments and their impact on society.

Since the beginning of the programme in 1998, L'Oréal–UNESCO For Women in Science has honored 87 Laureates, including two who went on to win the Nobel Prize (Scientists around the world are invited to submit candidates, and an international jury of eminent scientists, makes the final selection).

Given your Government's interest in the promotion and the enhancement of the Programme For Women in Science, we would be grateful if you could pass on the information that the call for nominations has been opened to renowned scientists in your country who could present and nominate the most qualified candidates.

For this purpose, the Platform "For Women in Science" launched in 2013 will still be accessible on [www.fwis.fr](http://www.fwis.fr). The platform is very user-friendly and is the only tool available for the submission of the candidates' applications and later for the selection process. The nominators will have to sign into the platform and upload all the necessary documents in order to submit the candidate's application.

The deadline for submitting nominations is **Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2015**. Please note that only nominations received through the platform and prior to this deadline will be considered by the Members of the Jury. No paper applications will be considered anymore. In the annex you will find the Rules and Regulations guiding the programme. Should you experience any difficulty or if you need further information about the platform, do not hesitate to contact [fwis@unesco.org](mailto:fwis@unesco.org).

We are confident that this joint venture will serve to strengthen UNESCO's efforts to promote the participation of women scientists in global development issues. We thank you for your active participation in ensuring that the best women in research from each region are recognized and rewarded for their scientific excellence.

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Sara Ravella  
Executive Director  
L'Oréal Foundation



Flavia Schlegel  
Assistant Director-General  
for Natural Sciences  
UNESCO