

WDS International Programme Office

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11 December 2014

Request for Nominations: ICSU World Data System Scientific Committee

To: ICSU World Data System Members

*ICSU National Members, Unions Members and Interdisciplinary Bodies
Partners and other interested organizations*

Dear Colleague,

On behalf of Professor Bernard Minster—the Chair of the World Data System (WDS, www.ICSU-WDS.org) Scientific Committee—I would like to bring to your attention that the term of the current Scientific Committee will expire in June 2015 with approximately half of the current seats to be renewed.

Therefore, the International Council for Science (ICSU) and WDS would like to call their respective members, partners and organizations concerned with scientific data and information to nominate new members of the WDS Scientific Committee for consideration.

As defined in its [Constitution](#), the Scientific Committee is the governing body of WDS. It is composed of internationally recognized and leading researchers and experts in all aspects of scientific data.

Following the recommendation of the 31st ICSU General Assembly (Auckland, New Zealand 2014), members are encouraged to nominate early career scientists.

Members are appointed by the ICSU Executive Board in their personal capacity normally for a three-year term renewable once, with particular attention to geographical, disciplinary and gender balance. In addition, at least four members are drawn from representatives of WDS Member Organizations. More information regarding the role and responsibilities of committee members can be found below.

If you would like to nominate an expert for this committee, please complete the attached Nomination Form to be sent to the WDS International Programme Office by email ipo@icsu-wds.org by **31 January 2015**.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mokrane', with a stylized flourish underneath.

Mustapha Mokrane
Executive Director

International Programme Office

Executive Director: Mustapha Mokrane. *Programme Officer:* Rorie Edmunds. *Administrative Officer:* Yuko Nikaido. *Senior Advisor:* Takashi Watanabe.

Scientific Committee

Chair: Jean-Bernard Minster (USA). *Vice-chairs:* Michael Diepenbroek (Germany), Françoise Genova (France). *Members:* Claudia Emerson (Canada), Sandy Harrison (UK, Australia), Wim Hugo (South Africa), Jane Hunter (Australia), Vasily Kopylov (Russian Federation), Guoqing Li (China), Ruth Neilan (USA), Lesley Rickards (UK), Ryosuke Shibasaki (Japan), Ariel Troisi (Argentina). *Ex officio:* Orhan Altan (ICSU), Yasuhiro Murayama (NICT).

Roles of Scientific Committee Members:

- To ensure that the WDS supports ICSU's mission and objectives
- To define, develop and prioritize plans for the WDS
- To establish and oversee the review of existing and new members
- To establish and maintain a mechanism for oversight of WDS activities
- To facilitate cooperation and integration with relevant national, regional and international programmes, organizations and institutions
- To mobilize funds for the implementation of WDS and related activities of the SC and Working Groups
- To publicize and promote the activities of WDS

Responsibilities of Scientific Committee Members:

- Attend face to face meetings twice a year, usually in Paris and Tokyo (**Travel support is provided by ICSU and WDS International programme Office**) as well as monthly webconferences
- Represent WDS at relevant meetings around the world
- Guide and convene WDS Working Groups and appropriate work plans
- Assist in mobilizing financial and human resources for WDS

Nomination Procedure

1. All nominating bodies are requested to submit a completed **Nomination Form** (attached) to the WDS International Programme Office by email at ipo@icsu-wds.org by 31 January 2015 at the latest. Exceptionally, proposals may be accepted from interested individuals who feel they have the qualities and experience to serve on WDS-SC. In this case, a short cover letter should be addressed to the Chair, Professor Bernard Minster, stating your interest and how you could contribute to the work of the WDS-SC.
2. The Chair of the WDS-SC and the Executive Director will review all materials and make a short list of potential nominees, which will be submitted to ICSU.
3. ICSU will examine the nominations and decide upon the individuals to serve on the Committee. Successful nominees will be invited to join the Committee. The 3-year term of the new Committee Members will start from July 2015.