09 September 2014

Dear Colleagues

Following the success of the 2010 and 2013 World Social Science Report (WSSR), and in line with the International Social Science Council’s (ISSC) commitment to produce a series of thematic reports every three years, we have now started working on the 2016 WSSR. This new Report will focus on “Inequality and Social Justice “. Like the 2013 WSSR, the 2016 Report will be co-published with UNESCO and, hopefully, OECD. I am writing now to invite you, as an ISSC member, to nominate candidates for the Report’s Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC).

This Committee will be asked to guide and advise the ISSC in the preparation of the Report: advise on the structure and content of the Report, make suggestions for contributors and assist the editorial team in formulating conclusions and recommendations.

The Committee will comprise some ten members chosen in their personal capacity for their knowledge of the theme, but they should represent different regional and disciplinary perspectives. The committee will be chaired by the ISSC President. I would therefore be grateful if you could nominate two possible knowledgeable candidates to be considered for this important function: at least one of them should come from the South. We ask that you also take into consideration the important need for gender balance. Please make sure that the people you nominate would be interested to take that position.

I would be grateful if you could send us a short CV for your candidates, highlighting what their specific experience in the domain is. The final decision on who will be a member of the SAC will be taken by the ISSC Executive Committee.

The theme of inequalities and social justice has been far more extensively researched in the social sciences than the two previous themes – “Knowledge Divides” for the 2010 WSSR and “Changing Global Environments” for the 2013 WSSR. The Report will showcase the important contributions that the social sciences can and must make to the analysis of inequalities, their causes, their consequences but also the conditions for change and social transformations. The Report will also be expected to set the agenda for future research and action. Hence we need people on the SAC that are knowledgeable and interested in the various goals of the Report, and will commit to working closely with us until the publication of the Report in 2016.
We would hope to be able to convene a first meeting of the SAC before the end of this year. A second meeting would take place in Durban on the assumption that enough SAC members would be attending the 2015 World Social Science Forum on “Transforming Global Relations for a Just World”.

I look forward to receiving your nominations at your earliest convenience, and by no later than the end of the month of September 2014.

With Kind regards

[Signature]

Heide Hackmann
ISSC Executive Director