



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

The Assistant Director-General for External Relations and Public Information

Permanent Delegates and
Observers to UNESCO

National Commissions for UNESCO

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Sir/Madam,

The UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme will celebrate its 25th anniversary this year. Today, there are more than 600 Chairs worldwide, with more than 170 in the Natural Sciences.

This network is unique and has clearly displayed its potential for its members and for UNESCO over the years. Today, more than ever, the international community needs more, better interconnected, and crosscutting science to respond adequately to the challenges of our time. Our network has an important role to play, therefore, in the common effort to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

In this context and in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Swiss Confederation, I am pleased to inform you that the first ever conference of all UNESCO Chairs in the Natural Sciences will take place in Geneva (Switzerland) from 5 to 7 July 2017. This conference will be dedicated to "Mobilizing UNESCO Chairs for policy action towards 2030 Agenda" and will be supported by prestigious institutions, such as the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN), the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) and the University of Geneva.

We will not fail to keep you informed of the important milestones and outcomes of this conference. For your convenience, updated information about the conference can be found at the following internet address: <https://en.unesco.org/sc-chairs-conference>

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.


Eric Falt