

**Opening Ceremony for the
International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development**

Friday 8 July 2022

UNESCO

Room I *French/English/Spanish interpretation is available and the event will be webcast*

8:30-10:00 Registration, coffee 90'

10:00-10:35 **Introductory session** 35'

10:00-10:03 **Video teaser** 3'

10:03-10:05 **Ms Shamila Nair-Bedouelle**, Moderator 2'
Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences,
UNESCO

10:05-10:10 **Mr Xing Qu** 5'
Deputy Director-General, **UNESCO**

10:10-10:15 **H.E. Dr Luther Castillo Harry**, Minister of Science, 5'
Technology Scientific Innovation, Republic of Honduras
On behalf of H.E. Iris Xiomara Castro Sarmiento
President of the Republic of Honduras

10:15-10:20 **H.E. Mr Csaba Kőrösi** 5'
President-elect of the 77th session
of the United Nations General Assembly

10:20-10:25 **Dr Michel Spiro** 3'
Chair of Steering Committee, International Year
of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development
President of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics

10:25-10:30 **Dr Merieme Chadid** 3'
Astronomer, astrophysicist and explorer
Chair of the UNESCO International Basic Sciences Programme
(IBSP)

10:30-10:40 **UNESCO's role in basic science: the beating heart of 10'**
subtainable development
Keynote lecture by **Ms Shamila Nair-Bedouelle**
Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, UNESCO

The session will conclude with a short video.

10:45-11:00

COFFEE BREAK

11:00-12:25 Roundtable: role of basic sciences in decision-making

75'

Moderator: Prof. Rolf Heuer, President of the SESAME Council, former Director-General of CERN

- **H.E. Dr Luther Castillo Harry**, Minister of Science, Technology and Scientific Innovation, Republic of Honduras
- **H.E. Mr Wang Zhigang**, Minister of Science and Technology, the People's Republic of China *online*
- **H.E. Dr Bonginkosi Emmanuel Blade Nzimande**, Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Republic of South Africa
- **H.E. Mr Huynh Thanh Dat**, Minister of Science and Technology, Socialist Republic of Vietnam
- **H.E Ms Elba Rosa Pérez Montoya**, Minister of Science, Technology and Environment, Republic of Cuba, *online*
- **Prof. Serge Haroche**, Physicist, Honorary Professor at Collège de France, 2012 Nobel Laureate in Physics, French Republic
- **Prof. Low Teck Seng**, Chief Executive Officer of the National Research Foundation, Republic of Singapore *online*
- **Prof. Georgio Parisi**, Physicist and 2021 Nobel Laureate in Physics, Republic of Italy

Remarks by Prof. Rolf Heuer, Moderator

The roundtable will conclude with a short video.

12:30-2:30

LUNCH, Japanese garden
VIP lunch *on invitation*: restaurant, 7th floor

Keynote lecture

2:30-2:33

Ms Dominique Leglu, Moderator
Editorial Director, Sciences et Avenir la Recherche

2:35-2:40

Strengthening science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) for the SDGs
Keynote lecture by **H.E. Prof. Mohamed Belhocine**, 5'
African Union Commissioner for Education,
Science, Technology and Innovation *video*

The lecture will be followed by a short video.

3:00-3:45 Roundtable: the role of basic sciences in developing societies

45'

Moderator : Ms Dominique Leglu, Editorial Director, Sciences et Avenir la Recherche

- **Dr Rui Bai**, Life Science, Westlake University, the People's Republic of China *online*
- **Dr Karen Hallberg**, Physicist, Research Director at the Bariloche Atomic Center, Argentine Republic
- **H.E. Prof. Hany Helal**, Former Minister of Scientific Research and Higher Education, Engineering Sciences, Arab Republic of Egypt
- **Prof. Barry Barish**, Astronomy, 2017 Nobel Laureate in Physics, United States of America
- **Dr Francine NTOUMI**, Medical Science, President & Director General of the Congolese Foundation for Medical Research, Republic of Congo *online*

Dr Emil Bjerrum-Bohr will conclude the session with a testimony to the legacy of his great grandfather, Niels Bohr.

3:45-4:00 COFFEE BREAK

4:00-5.00 pm

Talks: perspectives on basic sciences and the Sustainable Development Goals

60'

Moderator: Ms Mamphela Ramphele, M.D. Co-Chair, the Club of Rome

- **Prof. Tandong Yao**, Glaciologist, Member of the Chinese Academy of Science, People's Republic of China *online*
- **Prof. Niyazi Serdar Sariciftci**, Chemical Physicist, Johannes Kepler University (JKU), Republic of Austria *video*
- **Prof. Mercedes Bustamante**, Ecologist, University of Brasilia, Federative Republic of Brazil *online*
- **Prof. Mu-ming Pu**, Neuroscientist, Member of the Chinese Academy of Science, People's Republic of China *online*
- **Prof. Mansurah Abdulazeez**, Biochemist, Bayero University, Federal Republic of Nigeria
- **Prof. Luca Marchetti**, Computational Biologist, University of Trento, Republic of Italy
- **Dr Pierre Léna**, Honorary President of the Office for Climate Education, French Republic
- **Dr Luc Aguilar**, Director of Research and Development, L'Oréal

Musical interlude by Mr Denis Teste, sitar and tabla (10')

5:00-5:25 pm

In their own words: basic science from around the globe 25'

Moderator: Ms Mamphela Ramphele, M.D. Co-Chair, the Club of Rome

- **Ms Ursula Bassler**, former President of CERN Council, CNRS,
- **Dr Khaled Toukan**, Director of SESAME, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

- **Dr Atish Dabholkar**, Director of the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Italy
- **Sir Mike Stratton**, Director of the Wellcome Sanger Institute, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland *video*
- **Prof. Mohammed Hassan**, President of The World Academy of Science (TWAS)

Remarks: Ms Charlotte Warakulle, Director for International Relations, CERN

5:25-5:35

Concluding remarks

10'

Dr Michel Spiro

5'

Chair of Steering Committee, International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development
President of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics

Ms Shamila Nair-Bedouelle

5'

Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, UNESCO

EXHIBITORS

- CasZyme, a biotech startup from the Republic of Lithuania
- Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS)
- Synchrotron-light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle East (SESAME)
- National Astronomical Research Institute of Thailand (NARIT)
- French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA)
- European Physical Society (EPS)
- International Basic Science Programme (IBSP)
- International union of biological sciences (IUBS)
- International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC)
- International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG)