



#FEBRUARY11
Women & Girls in Science

8th International Day of Women & Girls in Science Assembly

Innovate. Demonstrate. Elevate. Advance. Sustain.

I.D.E.A.S.

Bringing Everyone Forward for Sustainable and Equitable Development

Concept Note and Programme Agenda

10 February 2023, United Nations Headquarters, New York

#February11 | #EquityInScience | #ScienceSociety | #WaterUnitesUs | #ScienceInBraille | #WomenInScience |

#BringingEveryoneForward | #SDG6 | SDG7 | #SDG9 | SDG11

@WomenScienceDay | @Girls4SDGs

Concept Note

The Royal Academy of Science International Trust (RASIT), and co-organizing Member States are celebrating the [International Day of Women and Girls in Science](#) (IDWGIS), on **10 February 2023** at the **United Nations Headquarters in New York**. This will be the 8th Assembly, pursuant to the adoption of Resolution A/RES/70/212 on the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, on December 22, 2015, aimed at promoting equality in science, technology, and innovation for socio-economic sustainable development, in line with the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs.

The 8th Assembly is **co-organized** by the Permanent Missions of **Chile, Lebanon, Malta, Poland, Portugal, the Philippines, Rwanda, Slovakia, and Spain**, to the United Nations, and **co-sponsored** by the Permanent Missions of *Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, France, Georgia, Honduras, Hungary, Kenya, the Maldives, New Zealand, Romania, Republic of Korea, San Marino, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Tunisia, and Turkiye* to the United Nations, as well as the **African Union**, the **League of Arab States**, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (**OECD**), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (**UNCTAD**), the International Telecommunication Union (**ITU**), United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (**UNESCO**), the World Intellectual Property Organization (**WIPO**), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (**UN-Women**), and the International Labour Organisation (**ILO**).

This year, the IDWGIS will focus on the role of Women and Girls and Science as relates to the SDGs in review at the forthcoming High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), namely **SDG 6** (clean water and sanitation), **SDG 7** (affordable and clean energy), **SDG 9** (industry, innovation, and infrastructure), **SDG 11** (sustainable cities and communities) and **SDG17** (means of implementation), while following up on discussions on water held during from the “**Water Unites Us**” 7th IDWGIS, the **2nd High-Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action on Water for Sustainable Development 2018-2022**, held in **Dushanbe**, and the **2nd UN Ocean Conference** and its **High-Level Symposium on Water** held in **Lisbon**, as a contribution for the 2023 UN Water Conference, and other UN Fora.

In doing so the IDWGIS aims to connect the International Community to Women and Girls in Science, strengthening the ties between science, policy, and society for strategies oriented towards the future. The IDWGIS will thus showcase best practices, strategies, applied solutions in addressing SDGs challenges and opportunities. It will also include for the *first time* a science workshop for **Blind Girls** and a session from the **BLIND fellow SCIENTISTS** on “[Science in Braille: Making Science Accessible](#)”.

The 8th Assembly of the IDWGIS will feature two high-level panels and four interactive conversations with distinguished representatives from governments, inter-governmental organization, the private sector, academia, and our fellow blind and deaf scientists. The voice of Girls in Science 4 SDGs International Platform and youth will be present in every conversation.

In **Panel 1**, participants will engage in interactive discussions, respectively focusing on: (i) sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11); (ii) transportation and logistics (SDG 7); (iii) business and industry (SDG 9); and, (iv) a space for sustainable development, with a focus on SDG 6.

SDG6 and SDG17 will be addressed in a cross-cutting manner. A [Cansu SITE](#) representative will provide the water lens in each conversation. Additionally, relevant experts will be invited to offer their input on SDG17, as well as on financing sustainable solutions. Finally, in fulfilment of RASIT's mission of bringing everyone forward, the importance of multilingualism will also be highlighted.

In **Panel 2**, RASIT and UN Member States, departments and agencies will celebrate the 8th anniversary of the **#February11 Global Movement** through a high-level panel entitled **“Think Science. Think Peace”**¹.

¹ A quote for HRH Princess Dr. Nisreen El-Hashemite

Programme

10 February 2023

09.00 – 18.00 (US-EST)

09:00 – 09:10 (US-EST)

Opening Segment: I.D.E.A.S.

Welcoming Remarks on behalf of Co-Organizers and Co-sponsors:

HRH Princess Dr. Nisreen El-Hashemite, *Executive Director, Royal Academy of Science International Trust*

Opening Statement:

H.E. Mr. Csaba Kőrösi, *President of the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly*

High-Level Panel 1:

09:10 – 13:00 (US-EST)

Equipping Communities for Sustainable and Equitable Development

Social structures embrace a great many different communities that unite people around common interests, living conditions and backgrounds. Each community is different, with its own challenges and priorities. In contributing to sustainable development, a specific community is bound to concentrate on its priority nexus. Furthermore, the conditions for effective and sustainable action on the prevailing nexus are generally not in place in its entirety.

This high-level panel is organized around fictitious communities that have their main impact on the SDGs under review in 2023. Key stakeholders of these communities will be brought together for a substantive discussion on the means of implementation (SDG17): how to create the enabling environment for accelerated implementation of SDGs 6, 7, 9 and 11.

Opening Statement:

H.E. Ms. Rabab Fatima, *Under Secretary-General, High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLS), United Nations*

Conversation 1:
09.10 – 10.10 (US-EST)

Transforming Cities and Infrastructure for Sustainable Future

Human settlements are developing at an unprecedented scale. According to the World Economic Forum, more than half of the global population lives in cities—a figure that's expected to rise to 80% by 2050. In addition, the World Bank projects that over the next 20 years, urban population in developing countries will double to 4 billion, and the urbanized land area will triple. While rapid growth creates new opportunities, it has also brings serious social, economic, and environmental challenges.

Cities, dealing with aging infrastructure and greater regulation, are facing significant challenges. Against the backdrop of a global pandemic, climate crisis, economic uncertainty, and budget constraints, it is imperative for cities to act with urgency and to invest in more sustainable resilient infrastructure and resources.

Building inclusive, resilient, competitive, and sustainable human settlements is essential for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, for eliminating extreme poverty and boosting shared prosperity at the local, regional, and national levels.

This conversation shall discuss the concept and key dimensions of “**Sustainable Cities and Communities**” with special focus on SDG 11 targets 11.3, 11.5, 11.6, and 11.a.

Moderator:

H.E. Ambassador Michal Mlynár, *Permanent Representative of the Slovak Republic to the United Nations*

Opening Remarks:

Ms. Ligia Noronha, *UN Assistant Secretary-General and Head of UNEP, New York Office*

Mr. Christopher Williams, *Director of UN-Habitat New York Office*

Scene setter: Short illustrative video picturing challenges and solutions from different scientific angles:

Ms. Paola Bigi (Istituti Culturali of San Marino) and Ms. Paola Gasperoni (Professor at the High School of San Marino): *The Ancient Cisterns of Mount Titano, an itinerary aimed at documenting a specificity of San Marino's Cultural and Environmental Heritage.*

Ms. Yasmina Chahine, *Girls in Science 4 SDGs International Platform, Lebanon*

A conversation with distinguished representatives of Communities:

Prof. Henrieta Moravčíková, *Institute of History of the Slovak Academy of Sciences*

Ms. Silvia Vercher, *Architect, Urban Designer, Perkins Eastman, NYC Senior Associate*

Dr. Gabrielle String, *Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering,
Lehigh University, USA*

Intervention:

Ms Anna Polomska-Risler, *Strategic Partnership Coordinator, International
Telecommunication Union (ITU)*

Ms. Caroline Hunter, *Student in Environmental Science, University of Washington,
USA*

Closing Remark

Mr. Robin Ogilvy, *Permanent Observer and Special Representative of OECD to the
United Nations*

Conversation 2:
10.10 – 11.10 (US-EST)

The Road to Sustainable Transport

Worldwide, according to the Global Infrastructure Outlook, more than \$2 trillion of transport infrastructure investments will be needed each year until 2040 to fuel economic development. Rapid urbanization and surging demand for freight services are putting pressure on stakeholders to step up the pace of infrastructure development.

Before starting to improve current infrastructure, or break ground and build airports and ports, lay fresh railway tracks, and pave new roads, it is critical that stakeholders work together to devise ways to transform infrastructure building to become more sustainable.

Furthermore, the transport sector is the largest contributor of greenhouse-gas emissions (GHG). Unlike many other industries that are gradually taking steps to meaningfully reduce their emissions, the transport sector continues to report growth in metric tons of carbon-dioxide equivalent every year.

Regulators and consumers alike are demanding greater sustainability across all industries, including infrastructure. A joint commitment is needed to reverse the current trend, and to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement's Climate goals.

This Conversation will discuss how to present a holistic road map toward sustainable transport systems, accounting for sustainability's three dimensions: environmental, social, and economic:

- How to define sustainable transport system?
- What are the key indicators not only for economic performance but also for environmental, social, and institutional performance, that includes mitigating climate impact, protecting biodiversity, and minimizing pollution?
- On social aspects, how to consider the external effects on vulnerable populations, preserve cultural heritage, protect human rights, improve quality of life, increase the level of inclusiveness, make transport services accessible and affordable, and broad opportunities such as job generation for business and communities?

- Innovative ideas and solutions for sustainable transport system and infrastructure?

Moderator:

Ms. Jeanne Mrad, *Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations*

Opening Remarks:

H.E. Ambassador Gatete Claver, *Permanent Representative of Rwanda to the UN*

Mr. Stefano Domenicali, *Chief Executive Officer, Formula One Group (video message)*

A conversation with distinguished representatives of Communities:

Dr. Maja Kiba-Janiak, *Director of Executive MBA Programme at Wroclaw University of Economics and Business, Poland*

Prof. Jouman Toufaily, *Head of the Laboratory of Applied Studies for Sustainable Development and Renewable Energy, Lebanese University, Lebanon*

Mr. Dinesh Joshi, *Chairman and Managing Director, SatyaGiri Group, India*

Mr. Donald Baldeosingh, *Founder Carbon Zero Institute, Trinidad and Tobago.*

Closing Remark:

Ms. Beate Andrees, *Special Representative of ILO to the United Nations*

Conversation 3:

11.10 – 12.10 (US-EST)

Food Business & Industry Communities: Securing Sustainability

The world faces acute food and nutrition challenges. Armed conflicts, climate change and the lasting impacts of COVID-19 pandemic, to name just a few, are having devastating effects on local and global food systems and the people who rely on them, thus negatively impacting the enjoyment of the right to food by millions of individuals globally.

In addition to that, the modern style of living, which is characterized by an over-consuming and rapidly increasing population, results in progressively growing businesses and industries that put relentless pressure on agricultural, food and natural resources. The man-made environmental tragedies unfolding in many industrial areas, including through inappropriate waste disposal or pollution, cannot be ignored, so can't the negative effects of conflicts on food security and the state of natural resources, such as mass displacements from land and livestock, destruction of food stocks and agricultural assets, decreased food production, and disruptions to food systems and markets, leading to increased food prices or decreased household purchasing power.

Effective solutions aiming at eradicating hunger and ensuring all people enjoy their right to safe, nutritious, affordable and sustainable food require innovative ideas and strong collaboration with businesses, but also scientists, industrial communities, policymakers and society at large, based on

responsible leadership. This requires informed and passionate individuals who are committed to leveraging their position, influence, and resources to drive and impact positive change.

Businesses and industries form communities of their own. At the same time, they are intertwined with other communities in many ways. The business and its industrial communities are critical for tackling the big issues facing the world, among others they have an important role to play in achieving and maintaining global food security. They have tremendous innovative potential to unlock creative sustainable solutions to end world hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition. While social and environmental accountability is increasingly embraced, there is still largely untapped potential in Business Communities to contribute to equitable and sustainable food systems.

This conversation addresses **SDG6** and **SDG9 and their nexuses**, with particular emphasis on **SDG2** and the imperative need for sustainable business communities, the challenges facing the industrial areas and the role businesses should play to achieve global food security.

Moderator:

H.E. Ambassador Krzysztof Maria Szczerski, *Permanent Representative of Poland to the United Nations*

Opening Remarks:

Mr. Navid Hanif, *Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs*

Mr. Angus Rennie, *Private Sector Officer, UN Global Compact*

Youth Voice

Ms. Meghna Badami, *RASIT Youth Representative to the UN, India (Video Message)*

A conversation with distinguished representatives of Communities:

Assoc. Prof. Aneta A. Ptasińska, *Faculty of Biology and Biotechnology, Institute of Biological Sciences, Department of Immunobiology, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, Poland*

Dr. Çiğdem Koğar, *Chief Economist, Founder & CEO of Izgi Global Consultancy Inc., Türkiye*

Prof. Elie El Zouki, *Sustainable Business Consultant, University Lecturer for Economics and Business Development, Lebanon*

Intervention

Ms. Huaxuan Chen, *Founding Member and Peer Mentor, Girls in Science 4 SDGs International Platform*

Closing Remarks:

Dr. Chantal Line Carpentier, *Chief of UNCTAD New York Office*

Conversation 4:
12.10 – 13.00 (US-EST)

Breaking Boundaries: Space Community I.D.E.A.S. for Sustainable Development

Space Science and Technology are becoming increasingly important for attaining the SDGs. Earth observation, weather forecasting, television and communication systems as well as wider scientific field such as Astronomy and Earth Sciences, all rely on GIST, satellite positioning, remote sensing and other technological advances

Space science, technology and applications can support a range of pro-developmental activities, inter alia, sustainable cities and agricultural planning, biodiversity protection, tele-medicine and disaster risk management.

This conversation will highlight how countries can leverage space science and technologies to achieve the SDGs, specially **SDG6 and its nexus**, through concrete examples. It will also feature women in space experts with an aim to attract more women and girls to space sciences.

Moderator:

H.E. Ambassador Ana Paula Zacarias, *Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations*

Opening Remarks:

Mr. Niklas Hedman, *Acting Director, United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs*
(video message)

A conversation with distinguished representatives of Communities:

Dr. Hyun Ok Kim, *Korea Aerospace Research Institute (KARI), Republic of Korea*
Dr. Carolina Sá, *PT Space, Portugal*

SWOT Mission for the People and the Planet:

Dr. Tahani Amer, *Program Executive, SWOT Mission, NASA*
Dr. Nadya Vinogradova-Shiffer, *Program Scientist, SWOT Mission, NASA*
Dr. Annick Sylvestre-Baron, *CNES Program Manager, France*
Mr. Parag Vaze, *SWOT Mission Project Manager, NASA*

Women and Girls in Space Science: The Way forward

Dr. M. Virginia McSwain, *Professor of Astrophysics, Lehigh University, USA*

Space Economy

Mr. Guruprasad Sowle, *Founding Board Member and President - Indus International Research Foundation, Americas (IIRF), India*

Videos illustrating the work of:

Dr. Eleni Paliouras, *European Space Agency Head of Strategy and Coordination Office in the Earth Observation Directorate*

Dr. Carolina Sá, *PT Space, Portugal*

Dr. Carolina Costa, *PT Space, Portugal*

Closing Remark:

Dr. Jill Cornell Tarter, *Former Director of the Center for SETI Research, USA*

Parallel Session

10.00 – 13.00 (US-EST)

Transform Science Education: Accessible Sustainability

Science in Braille Workshop for Our Fellow Blind Girls

Presented by

Girls in Science 4 SDGs International Platform

The **Outcome documents of [3rd](#), [4th](#), [5th](#), and [7th](#)** International Day of Women and Girls in Science Assembly clearly emphasized member states commitment “providing inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels – early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary, technical and vocational training. All women and girls (including disabled women and girls) should have access to life-long learning opportunities that help them acquire the knowledge and skills needed to exploit opportunities and to participate fully in society, and to achieving the SDGs”.

In fulfilment of **RASIT’s commitment** to the **2030 Development Agenda**, the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**, and the call to action of “**Transform Education Summit**”, RASIT is introducing the unique science kits in braille through The Transforming Science Education: Accessible Sustainability workshop.

The workshop is a STEM-focused program designed to empower blind children by providing them with engaging, hands-on learning opportunities. During the workshop, participants will work in small groups, utilizing snap-circuit electronic building blocks to construct a smart cane, a device designed to assist the visually impaired in navigating their environment. Additionally, participants will have the opportunity to learn about the use of sensors in measuring the distance to obstacles.

Several key principles guide this workshop, including the belief that education is a fundamental human right, the importance of inclusivity and accessibility in science education, the critical role of foundational science learning, the promotion of sustainable development through education, and the necessity of transforming science teaching methods. Furthermore, the workshop recognizes the value of investing in science education to yield individual and societal returns.

By providing a supportive and stimulating learning environment, the Transforming Science Education: Accessible Sustainability workshop aims to foster the development of values and skills that support sustainable living, peaceful coexistence and the participation of blind children in STEM fields. Ultimately, the workshop seeks to promote the advancement of sustainable

development globally through the promotion of inclusive and accessible education that uses differentiated instruction.

The Objectives of this inaugural “Science in Braille” Workshop are:

- To provide a quality education that is inclusive, accessible, and diverse, and that respects the right of all children to education, regardless of their abilities or disabilities.
- To encourage the development of foundational science skills, including literacy, numeracy, and basic scientific thinking, as well as socio-emotional skills that enable students to face challenges and succeed in life.
- To promote sustainable development through science education by teaching values that support sustainable living, gender equity, human rights, environmental protection, , and by encouraging an active, lifelong commitment to these principles.

Moderator:

Ms. Paola Ferrari, *Director, Girls in Science 4 SDGs International Platform*

Opening Remarks:

HRH Prince Zain El-Hashemite, *Founder, Value Veda International Campaign for Science Education.*

H.E. Ambassador Walton Alfonso Webson, *Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations*

Ms. Lauren Rumble, *Director for Gender Equality, UNICEF*

Workshop Mentors:

Ms. Asude Altintas, *Co-Founder of RASIT Twin Science kits*

Mr. Cihan Ozalevli, *Co-Founder of RASIT Twin Science kits*

Mr. Omer Gorgulu, *Co-Founder of RASIT Twin Science kits*

Certificates of Merits Presentation and Closing Photo Shoot

13.00 – 15.00:

LUNCH BREAK

Panel 2:

15.00 – 18.00 (USA-EST)

Bringing Everyone Forward

15.00 – 15.45 (US-EST)

Making Science Accessible A Conversation with Renowned BLIND Scientists

Presented by
Science In Braille Global Campaign

The 5th International Day of Women and Girls in Science Assembly featured an **outcome document** entitled “*Investment in Equality in Science, Technology and Innovation in the Era of Digitalization for Sustainable Development*” endorsed by 77 Member States, clearly emphasized in Paragraph 24: “**Urge Member States to invest in enabling disabled women and girls in science as agents and beneficiaries of sustainable development programs**”.

In fulfilment of RASIT’s commitment to the 2030 Development Agenda, and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, RASIT in close collaboration with the Permanent Missions of Portugal and Lebanon to the United Nations, and Perkins School launched the “**Science in Braille**” Global Campaign during the 6th International Day of Women and Girls in Science Assembly. The “Science in Braille” Campaign aims to promote and facilitate accessible, inclusive, and diverse science.

This Conversation is **bringing forward** the achievements of the **Science in Braille blind fellows**, introduce best practices and solutions to the international community towards the rights of blind and visually impaired individuals - particularly women and girls - in science, education and literacy, equal opportunities, as well as their inclusion in sustainable development programs as agents of change.

Moderator:

H.E. Ambassador Vanessa Frazier, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Malta to the United Nations

Opening Remark:

H.E. Ambassador Walton Alfonso Webson, *Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations*

Mr. W. David Power, *CEO and President, Perkins School for the Blind, USA*

Video Message

Dr. Michelle Mele, *Education Officer, RASIT “Science in Braille” Global Program*

Prof. Wanda Díaz-Merced, *a Puerto Rican Blind Professor of Astrophysics, Senior Scientist, European Gravitational Observatory in Pisa-Italy.*

A conversation with Our Fellow Blind Scientists & Experts:

Dr. Mona Minkara, *Assistant Professor of Bioengineering at Northeastern University, Director of RASIT “Science in Braille” Global Program*

Dr. Cary Supalo, *Research Developer at Educational Testing Service, USA; Advocate, RASIT “Science in Braille” Global Program*

Mr. Sina Bahram, *President and Founder, Prime Access Consulting, USA*

Dr. Sheri Wells-Jensen, Associate Professor of Linguistics at Bowling Green State University, Ohio; Literacy Officer, RASIT “Science in Braille” Global Program
Dr. Henry Bryce Wedler, Entrepreneur, Science and Innovation Officer, RASIT “Science in Braille” Global Program

Closing Remark:

Ms. Haben Girma, Deaf-Blind Human Rights Attorney for Advancing Disability Justice

Closing Ceremony:
15:45 - 18:00 (USA-EST)

“Think Science. Think Peace”²

Celebrating the 8th Anniversary of #February11 Global Movement

“For all countries striving to use scientific advancement for transformative development programs, it is necessary to grant women equal rights to men, empower women specialized in all fields of sciences and invest in their creative capabilities, recognize their achievements, and involve them in planning and decision-making processes.” ---1973

*the late HRH Prince Mohammad bin King Faisal (I) of Iraq El-Hashemite
The Founder, Royal Academy of Science International Trust*

The Royal Academy of Science International Trust (RASIT), co-organizing and co-sponsoring UN Member States, departments and agencies are celebrating the **8th** anniversary of the **#February11 Global Movement**.

Statements to be delivered by Heads of State or Government, and other dignitaries of the United Nations and the world.

Statements are expected to highlight the **role of women in science** in solving world challenges, the **importance of multilingualism** to facilitate the global compilation and application of scientific advancement for sustainable development, as well as the value of **investment in science-based solutions** for sustainable development.

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The closing ceremony will include:

- Elaboration of the collective vision and inputs from the **“Water Unites Us” 7th International Assembly of Women and Girls in Science**, the **2nd High-Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action on Water for Sustainable Development 2018-2022**, held in **Dushanbe**, and the **2nd UN Ocean Conference** and its **High-Level Symposium on Water** held in **Lisbon**, as a contribution for the 2023 UN Water Conference, and other UN Fora.

² A quote for HRH Princess Dr. Nisreen El-Hashemite

- Elaboration of the collective vision and inputs from the conversations on the **Impact Investment for Sustainable Future: Financing Science-Based Solutions**.

Moderators:

Dr. Belen Carrillo-Rivas, *Senior Vice President and Head of Regulatory Affairs at Imvax, Inc.*

Ms. Talya Ozdemir, *co-founder of the Girls in Science 4 SDGs International Platform, Turkiye*

Collective vision and inputs on SDG6 “Water Unites Us”:

Drs. Alice Bouman-Dentener, *Co-Founder, Cansu Global*

Ms. Hilolbi Qurbonzoda, *Chair of the Committee of Women’s Affairs and Family under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan*

Mrs. Ana Paula Zacarias, *Permanent Representative of Portugal to the UN*

Launching Cansu SITE Women Plus Water Global Network

Dr. Corinne Schuster-Wallace, *Chair of Cansu SITE, Associate Director, Global Water Futures Program, University of Saskatchewan, Canada*

Impact Investment for Sustainable Future: Financing Science-Based Solutions.

Ms. Reema Khan, *CEO, Green Sands Equity, USA*

Celebrating 25th Anniversary of RASIT Women in Science International League

Women in Science of the World Virtual Exhibition:

Ms. Olivia Cohn, Co-Founder, One Billion Voices, Girls in Science 4 SDGs International Platform

Launching Young Scientists Platform:

Dr. Francesca Donnalaja and Ms. Allegra Carlotta Scarpa, Accademia di Gagliato, Italy

Celebrating the 8th Anniversary of #February11 Global Movement

Official Statements:

H.E. Mr. António Guterres, *Secretary-General of the United Nations*

H.E. Ms. Sima Bahous, *Executive Director, UN-Women*

HRH Prince Zain El-Hashemite, *Founder of Y 4 X Global Movement for Equality in Science, and Founder of Value Veda International Initiative for Science Education*

H.E. Ms. Shamila Nair-Bedouelle, *Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, UNESCO*

H.E. Aminath Shauna, *Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Technology, the Maldives*

Ms. Yesenia Olaya, *Vice-minister of Talent and Social Appropriation of Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, Colombia*

Pre-recorded messages from Heads of States and Governments, and Dignitaries

H.E. Ms. Maria Luisa Berti II, and **H.E. Mr. Manuel Ciavatta I**, *Captains Regent of the Republic of San Marino*

H.E. Ms. Sheikh Hasina, *Prime Minister of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh*

H.E. Mr. Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, *President of the Portuguese Republic*
H.E. Ms. Nataša Pirc Musar, *President of the Republic of Slovenia*
H.E. Prof. George Vella, *President of the Republic of Malta*
H.E. Mr. Vahagn Khachaturyan, *President of the Republic of Armenia*
H.E. Ms. Sara Z. Duterte, *Vice-President of the Philippines*
H.E. Mr. Pedro Sánchez Pérez-Castejón, *President of the Government, Kingdom of Spain*
H.E. Dr. Helena Dalli, *European Union Commissioner for Equality*
H.E. Professor Mohammed Belhocine, *Commissioner for Education, Science, Technology, and Innovation, African Union*

H.E. Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, *Secretary-General, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development*
H.E. Ms. Doreen Bogdan-Martin, *Secretary-General, International Telecommunication Union*
Ms. Justyna Orłowska, *Plenipotentiary of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Poland for GovTech, Plenipotentiary of the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Poland for a Digital Transformation*
Ms. Kerri-Ann Jones, *Deputy Secretary-General, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development*

Announcement of the 2023-2024 World Capital of Women and Girls in Science.

Dr. Susan Windham-Bannister, Chair of the Selection Committee, RASIT World Capital of Women and Girls in Science Initiative

Closing Remark Endorsing the Outcome Document:

HRH Princess Dr. Nisreen El-Hashemite, *Executive Director, Royal Academy of Science International Trust*

18.30 – 20.00

“Think Science .. Think Peace” Reception