



Dear colleague,

With this message I would like to bring you up-to-date with the latest developments and state of affairs regarding the transition to the new NWO, since the last Transition update in January 2016.

Members of the search committee

The recruitment of the Executive Board members will start in the second half of February. A search committee has been established by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. This committee will make an appointment proposal to the Minister for the entire Executive Board and will make use of several nominations for the appointment of the scientific members of the Executive Board. These nominations will be made by the nomination committees: for each future domain, a committee will be formed made up of the current divisional boards (consultations are still taking place about the procedure for the nomination from the chair of ZonMw). Applications for the vacancies will also go through the nomination committees. The recruitment of the Portfolio Holder Operations and Finances and for the scientific members of the Executive Board (who will also be chair of one of the domains Natural and Mathematical Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities, and Applied and Engineering Sciences) will start according to plan in the second half of February. An advertisement will be published on 20 February in the NRC and Volkskrant newspapers.

The members of the appointment advisory committee are:

- Hans Schutte (Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, chair)
- Roelof de Wijkerslooth (chair of the steering group)
- Ewine van Dishoeck (Leiden University)
- Rianne Letschert (Tilburg University, chair De Jonge Academie)
- Karel Luyben (rector Delft University of Technology)
- Nora van der Wenden (Ministry of Education, Culture and Science)
- Mariska Dee (Secretary/Senior Civil Service)

Official names of the future four NWO-domains

The steering group has decided on the English and Dutch names of the four future domains. From now on the names are:

- Applied and Engineering Sciences (in Dutch: Toegepaste en Technische Wetenschappen, TTW)
- Health Research and Development (in Dutch: Zorg Onderzoek en Medische Wetenschappen, ZonMW)
- Natural and Mathematical Sciences (in Dutch: Wiskunde en Natuurwetenschappen, WNW)
- Social Sciences and Humanities (in Dutch: Sociale en Geesteswetenschappen, SGW)

Initial draft of the integral main design

Friday 29 January was the deadline for the Transition workgroups to submit their reports to the Programme Office Transition NWO. Those reports will serve as input for the integral main design of the new NWO organisation. The Programme Office will now use the reports as a basis for an initial draft of

the outline for the integral main design. Our aim is to finalise the integral main design during the steering group meeting of 23 March. If the draft is approved then the following phase will start: the design phase in which the design will be elaborated in detail. This phase will last until after the summer.

I will continue to keep you informed about any further developments with respect to the NWO transition.

Yours sincerely,
Wim van Saarloos
Director NWO Transition Office