



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 February 2016.

The Programme office NWO Transition has worked hard on collecting all of the input from the workgroups and processing this into a draft integral main design for the new organisation. This draft integral main design can best be seen as the hull (i.e. rough construction) of the new organisation. The first draft text was discussed during the meeting of the Steering Group Transition on Wednesday 2 March. The Steering Group also decided to change the name of the Natural and Mathematical Sciences domain into Exact and Natural Sciences (ENS). Finally the Steering Group discussed and approved the proposal from the divisional chairs for the composition of the appointment committees for the domain directors (AES, ENS and SSH) and the director of the Institutes Organisation.

#### **First draft integral main design**

By discussing a first draft version of the integral main design the Steering Group could already provide instructions and suggestions to the Programme office Transition for the final draft version. Furthermore, in recent weeks the draft integral main design and plan has also been discussed with the institute directors and chairs of the institute boards, in the divisional chairs consultation, and with the work councils. The Programme office will take all of the input and incorporate this into a final draft for the integral main design. The plan is to determine the final version of the integral main design during the Steering Group meeting on 23 March.

#### **New name: Exact and Natural Sciences Domain**

During the meeting of 10 February the Steering Group had decided to change the name for the sciences domain into "Natural and Mathematical Sciences". In view of concerns from computer scientists about the recognisability of this name for their field, the Steering Group decided during the meeting of 2 March to finalise this domain's name as "Exact and Natural Sciences", abbreviated ENS.

#### **Composition appointment committees**

The recruitment for the domain directors started on 26 February. For the three future domain directors (AES, SSH and ENS) and for the director of the Institutes Organisation, appointment committees have been put together. These committees will hold the interviews with the candidates and will finally submit a proposal for the new domain directors and for the director of the Institutes Organisation. For each future domain, the divisional chairs made a proposal for the composition of these appointment committees. These proposals have been discussed and approved by the Steering Group. The composition of the appointment committees will be announced as soon as possible.

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