Press Release

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Women and sustainable development in Africa:
An international forum on a major challenge for the continent

8th to 10th March 2018 in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

What role will African women play and what place will they occupy in the social, economic, cultural, scientific and technologic development of their countries? These questions will be at the heart of an international forum “Women and sustainable development in Africa” to be held from March 8 to 10, 2018 in Dar-es-Salaam (Tanzania). The forum is organized by the Network of African Science Academies - NASAC (Kenya), with the support of Académie des sciences (France) and the Tanzanian Academy of Sciences, thus contributing to the World Women day in Africa.

In the last decade the African economies have shown very promising growth dynamics and the role of women in this evolution is impossible to ignore as the aim is to achieve controlled and sustainable development in every country: equality between genders, especially in education and employment, social structuring, choice of family size, education and health of children, respect for the environment, etc. As the scientific community is by nature involved in these matters, it represents one of the supports on which women can rely to accompany them in their role to further social, economic, cultural, scientific and technologic progress on the continent.

The aim of the conference “Women and sustainable development in Africa” is to provide scientists with a platform where they can exchange ideas with policymakers and contribute science-based view-points concerning the importance of the role of women and of their participation in national bodies, which work for the objectives of Sustainable Development in Africa, as defined in 2016 by the United Nations. The first task is to make an inventory of the advantages, challenges, obstacles and the potential contribution by science to the realization of these objectives on the continent. The forum will further examine questions pertaining to education and the youth, particularly to the schooling of girls and the teaching of reproductive biology as well as the importance of enhancing their self-confidence. The aim of these discussions will be to identify possible priority actions that will be presented to the African decision-makers.

This forum is organised with the financial support of the following partners:

Enclosed is the complete programme.

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