



Attention: news desks/science and education correspondents

For immediate release

10 November 2015

### [Commission launches new Scientific Advice Mechanism](#)

The European Commission's new Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM) has been officially launched today with the announcement of the seven leading scientists who will form the first High Level Group of scientific advisors. The seven members of the High Level Group were selected following an open call for nominations and the recommendations of an independent identification committee. The European University Association (EUA) is pleased to announce that Professor Henrik C. Wegener from the Technical University of Denmark, proposed by EUA, has been appointed to the Group.

The objective of the Scientific Advice Mechanism is to ensure that the Commission has access to the best possible scientific advice, independent of institutional or political interests. It will bring together evidence and insight from different disciplines and approaches, take into consideration the specificities of EU policy making, and ensure transparency. It will complement the in-house scientific services of the Joint Research Centre and existing specialist committees. The first meeting of the Group will take place in January 2016.

SAM is being launched six months after it was first announced by Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker and Carlos Moedas, the Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation in May 2015. It draws on experience in Member States and worldwide and is based on a High Level Group of independent science advisors and a stronger relationship with national academies and other bodies.

*ENDS*

Notes:

- [DG Research & Innovation](#)

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*The European University Association, as the representative organisation of both the European universities and the national rectors' conferences, is the main voice of the higher education*

*community in Europe. EUA's mission is to promote the development of a coherent system of European higher education and research.*