

**Visit of African Scientific Academies to  
the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW)**

**29 January to 6 February 2006**

All sessions will take place at the KNAW, Kloveniersburgwal 29, Amsterdam, unless stated otherwise

**Sunday 29 January**

Delegates arrive

18:30 – 21:00 Welcome dinner with Prof Frits van Oostrom, President KNAW and Prof Pim Levelt, ex-President KNAW  
Venue: Tuynhuys

**Monday 30 January**

Venue during the day: Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), “Java” building, Laan van Nieuw Oost-Indië 300, The Hague

08:00 Departure for The Hague

09:00 – 10:00 Working Session 1: Goals and objectives of the programme

10:00 – 10:30 Coffee break

10:30 – 12:00 Systems of science, technology and innovation: Academies in context  
Chair: Prof Gabriel Ogunmola

The Dutch research system: Actors and priority actions  
Prof Peter Nijkamp, President of the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) and President of the Heads of European Research Councils (EUROHORCS)

National systems of knowledge, research and innovation: their emergence and their design in developing countries  
Professor Arie Rip, University of Twente

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 15:00 Systems of science, technology and innovation: Academies in context (continued)

Objectives of the ICSU Regional Office in Africa  
Prof Gabriel Ogunmola, Chairman ICSU Regional Committee for Africa

Why academies? The strategic role of academies in African science and society  
Prof Mohamed Hassan, President of the African Academy of Sciences (AAS) and the Network of African Science Academies (NASAC)

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee break

- 15:30 – 17:00 Setting agendas: Research foresighting  
Chair: Dr. Barend van der Meulen, University of Twente
- Foresighting in the KNAW: How, what and why?  
Dr Alice de Gier, Scientific Secretary of the Earth and Climate Council and the Netherlands Global Change Committee, KNAW
- Forward Looks of the European Science Foundation (ESF): Impacting on science in Europe  
Dr John Marks, Science Policy Director of the ESF
- Coordinating European Foresighting: The ForSociety ERA-NET  
Dr Victor van Rij, Senior adviser, Consultative Committee of Sector Councils for research and development (COS)
- 17:30 Departure for Leiden
- 18:00- 20:00 Informal dinner meeting with the Africa Studies Centre (ASC), University of Leiden  
Venue: Faculty Club, University of Leiden
- Introduction to the ASC: Research and training programmes  
Prof Leo de Haan, Director ASC

## **Tuesday 31 January**

- 09:00- 11:30 Free morning
- 11:30- 13:00 Meeting and working lunch with Prof. Pieter Drenth, President of the All European Academies (ALLEA)
- 13:00- 14:30 On the social and human sciences  
Chairs: Prof Andriamananjara, President of the Academy of Madagascar and Prof. Peter Geschiere, University of Amsterdam
- A debate with:  
Prof. Wim Blockmans, Chair of the Council for the Humanities of the KNAW and Director of the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies (NIAS)  
Prof. Jacques Thomassen, Chair of the Social Sciences Council of the KNAW and Professor of the University of Twente  
Dr. Koen Hilberdink, Scientific Secretary of the Council for the Humanities, KNAW  
Dr. Ans Vollering, Scientific Secretary of the Social Sciences Council, KNAW  
Dr. Annemarie Bos, Director of the Humanities Division, NWO  
Dr. Jan-Karel Koppen, Director of the Social Sciences Division, NWO  
Dr. F. Huijzendveld, Non-western history, Free University of Amsterdam
- 14:30- 15:00 Coffee break
- 15:00- 17:00 Meeting of NASAC with NEPAD

17:30- 20:00 Public lecture and reception  
Hosted by the KNAW and the British Embassy in the Netherlands  
Chair: Prof Mohamed Hassan, President of the African Academy of Sciences (AAS) and the Network of African Science Academies (NASAC)

Words of welcome: Prof Frits van Oostrom, President of the KNAW and Mr Lyn Parker, the British Ambassador to the Netherlands

Doing Development: Science, Innovation and Africa  
Prof Sir David King, Chief Scientific Advisor and Head of the Office of Science and Technology of the UK

Responses to Sir David by representatives of African ministries of science:  
Visions on the role of academies in science for development

General discussion

### **Wednesday 1 February**

09:00 – 12:00 S&T education and training  
Chair: Prof S. Agong, Secretary General, NASAC, and Executive Director of the African Academy of Sciences (AAS)

S&T education and training activities of the Network of African Scientific Academies (NASAC)

Prof Oussaynou Fall Dia, Vice-President, Academy of Sciences of Senegal

Dutch research schools and PhD training in the Netherlands

Prof Peter van der Vliet, University of Utrecht

Science education in primary school

Dr Marja van Graft, Amstel Institute for research into science education

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch

14:00 – 18:00 Joint meeting with the Board of the InterAcademy Council (IAC) and African ministers of Science and Technology

During the session, the IAC would like to seek the African delegates' policy input on IAC plans for:

- Follow-up activities to recently completed IAC studies (including on S&T capacity building)
- New IAC studies and initiatives

18:30 – 21:00 Dinner with members of the IAC Board

The role of the Academy in science and society

Dinner address by Prof Frits van Oostrom, President of the KNAW

## Thursday 2 February

09:00 – 10:30 Working Session 2: Progress

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30 Science expertise and advice in public policymaking

Chair: Prof Robin Crewe, President, Academy of Science of South Africa

Voices of science in the Netherlands: Science advisors and their changing relations with policy makers

Dr Willem Halffman and Prof Rob Hoppe, University of Twente

Policy for science and science for policy: The KNAW's advisory sector

Mr Emil Broesterhuizen, Director General Affairs, KNAW

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 15:00 Science expertise and advice in public policymaking (continued)

Targeted Science and Technology Advise for Public Policy Making

Dr Mwananyanda Lewanika, President of the Zambian Academy of Sciences

Science for public policy-making: The case of Kenya

Dr Suki Mwendwa, Member of the Kenya National Academy of Sciences

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee Break

15:30 – 17:30 Science meeting: Health sciences

Chairs: Prof Pim Levelt, Director of the Max Planck Institute for Neuro-linguistics; and Dr Renee van Kessel, Head of International Relations and Director of WOTRO, NWO

(Note: In order to ensure the continuity and focus of discussions during the four science meetings, Prof Levelt and Dr Van Kessel have been asked to co-chair each of these meetings)

Note: This and the other science meetings (scheduled to be held on Friday 3 February) are intended to facilitate scientific networking and to:

- Provide an insight into research strengths and new developments in the Netherlands and/or Africa
- Give interesting examples of current research collaboration between Dutch and African scientists
- Discuss priorities for future research cooperation between the Netherlands and Africa
- Identify potential funding opportunities for such cooperation

Speakers:

Prof Ahmed Mohammed El Hassan, President, Sudanese National Academy of Sciences

Dr Andre van der Ven, Poverty-Related Infection-Oriented Research (PRIOR), Radboud University Nijmegen

Dr. Sake de Vlas, Erasmus Medical Centre, Rotterdam  
Prof Robert Sauerwein, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre

Free evening

### **Friday 3 February**

09:00 – 11:00 Science meeting: Water

Chairs: Prof Pim Levelt, Director of the Max Planck Institute for Neuro-linguistics; and Dr Renee van Kessel, Head of International Relations and Director of WOTRO, NWO

Speakers:

- Prof N.C. van de Giesen, Technical University Delft
- Prof Pieter van der Zaag, UNESCO-IHE, Delft
- Prof K. Vairavamoorthy, UNESCO-IHE, Delft

11:00 – 11:15 Coffee Break

11:15 – 13:15 Science meeting: Energy

Chairs: Prof Pim Levelt, Director of the Max Planck Institute for Neuro-linguistics; and Dr Renee van Kessel, Head of International Relations and Director of WOTRO, NWO

Speakers:

- Prof Hubert Veringa, Energy Research Centre of the Netherlands
- Prof S. Arungu-Olende, QueConsult Ltd, Kenya (to be confirmed)

13:15 – 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 16:30 Science meeting: Agriculture

Chair: Prof. S. Domngang, Cameroon Academy of Sciences

Speakers:

- Prof Rudy Rabbinge, Wageningen University
- Dr Bart de Steenhuijsen Piters, Royal Tropical Institute
- Prof Johan Bouma, Wageningen University

17:00 – 20:00 Dinner and canal cruise with participants of the science meetings

### **Saturday 4 February**

10:00 – 12:00 Evaluating for science

Chair: Dr Heide Hackmann, Head of the Department of International Relations and Quality Assessment, KNAW

Evaluating in context: A model for evaluation of the science-and-society paradigm

Dr Jack Spaapen, Policy Officer, KNAW and co-author of the book 'Evaluating in context'

Evaluation of scientific education  
Mr Sietze Looijenga, Quality Assurance Netherlands Universities

National research evaluation in the Netherlands: The Standard Evaluation Protocol and the work of the Meta-Evaluation Committee  
Dr Marieke Renou, Scientific Secretary Meta-Evaluation Committee of the KNAW, NWO and VSNU

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch

13:00 – 16:00 *Final working session: Conclusions and plans for follow-up activities*

This session will include a discussion with Philip Campbell about options for Nature championing science in Africa

16:00 onwards Free for sightseeing/social events

**Sunday 5 February**  
Departure for Brussels

**Monday 6 February**

**AFRICAN ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES WORKING VISIT  
BRUSSELS – 6 FEBRUARY 2006  
CDMA, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, room SDR1**

**PROGRAMME**

**9:00 – 10:00** **Welcome, contextual introduction and round table presentations**  
*Ms Fadila Boughanemi – DG RTD, International Scientific Cooperation Policy Unit*

**10:00 – 11:00** **The EU Strategy vis -à-vis S&T in Africa and vv**

- **Policy Discussion and Round Table discussion involving the various stakeholders:**

*Chaired by Mr András Siegler – Director of International Scientific Cooperation, DG RTD*

- DG RTD
- DG DEV
- DG AIDCO
- DG INFSO
- ACP General Secretariat

- 11:00 – 11:15**      **DG Development Research in Agronomy**  
*Mr Marc Debois – DG DEV, Environment and Rural Development*
- 11:15 – 11:45**      **DG AIDCO 9<sup>th</sup> EDF Programme for S&T Capacity Building and EDULINK**  
**9<sup>th</sup> EDF Programme for S&T Capacity Building**  
*Ms Renata Russel – DG AIDCO, Centralized operations in ACP*
- EDULINK Network**  
*Ms Renata Russel – DG AIDCO, Centralized operations in ACP*
- 11:45– 12:00**      **IST Cooperation**  
*Mr Thierry Devars – DG INFSO, International Relations*
- 12:00 –12:15**      **Discussion – questions and answers**
- 12:15 –12:30**      **Research Infrastructures and FP7 future opportunities**  
*Mr Daniel Pasini – DG RTD, Development of Scientific and Technological Capacities: Research Infrastructures*
- 12:30 – 12:45**      **Environment Topping up call and FP7 future opportunities**  
*Mr Nikolaos Christoforides – DG RTD, Policy aspects of Research and Sustainable Development*
- 12:45 – 13:00**      **The Scientific Visa and some relevant issues in the wider context also dealt with by the Commission through its Communication on “Migration & Development” adopted on September 2005**  
*Mr Massimo Bengt SERPIERI –DG RTD, the Human Factor, Mobility and Marie Curie activities: Policy and Strategy*
- 13:00 – 13:15**      **Discussion – questions and answers**
- 13:15 – 13:45**      **Lunch**
- 13:45 – 14:00**      **Food Agriculture and Biotechnology**  
*Mr Jean-François Maljean – DG RTD, Biotechnology, Agriculture and Food : Strategy and Policy*
- 14:00 – 14:30**      **Science & Society Action Plan under FP6 and future perspective under FP7**  
*Mr Dionysia Lagiou – DG RTD, Science and Society, Strategy and Scientific Culture*
- Ethics in Africa**  
*Mr Maurizio Salvi – DG RTD, Science and Society, Ethics and Science*

- 14:30 – 14:45**     **Poverty-related Disease Programme**  
*(tbc) - DG RTD, Directorate F.*
- 14:45 – 15:00**     **Discussion – questions and answers**
- 15:00 – 15:20**     **Africa-EU Research Cooperation Programme and Initiatives**  
**European South African Science and Technological Advancement Programme – ESASTAP**  
*Mandi Mzimba – Senior S&T Representative to EU (South Africa)*
- 15:20 – 15:30**     **European Initiative for Agricultural Research for Development - EIARD**  
*Jean-Luc Khalfaoui – DG RTD, International Scientific Cooperation, Multilateral Cooperation Activities*
- 15:30– 15:50**     **Innovative Ways of Funding Science – Presentations from :**
- *South Africa*
  - *Zambia*
- the common Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) and European Forum on Agricultural Research for Development (EFARD) initiative**
- Christian Hoste - CIRAD*
- 15:50 – 16:00**     **Discussion – questions and answers**  
**End of the seminar**



## Underlying objectives

The following objectives are designed to drive the programme as a whole and determine the concrete outputs and outcomes to be achieved as a result of it. They were formulated as an outcome of discussions with African academy representatives. These objectives are:

1. Creating opportunities: To facilitate networking with Dutch/European scientists, research funders and science policymakers, and to identify the opportunities for future collaboration such networks can/could offer.
2. Promoting policy learning: To share practical information and experiences of good practice concerning the effective organisation and implementation of academy activities (such as research foresighting, providing scientific advice to government, assuring the quality of the national research effort, and promoting effective scientific training).
3. Addressing challenges: To discuss the main challenges academies face as they seek to strengthen their role in fostering excellent science for the benefit of society, and to formulate concrete recommendations for tackling such challenges. The challenges include:
  - a. Promoting and demonstrating the role of science in processes of innovation and sustainable development
  - b. Raising political awareness of, and investment in, science
  - c. Ensuring the effective use of science in public policy-making
  - d. Advancing the public understanding of, and engagement in, science
  - e. Fostering a new generation of excellent scientists and opening the doors of academies to them
  - f. Redressing the gender imbalance in science
  - g. Supporting the international exchange and mobility of scientists whilst counteracting the problem of brain drain
  - h. Building strategic linkages/partnerships with key stakeholders in national, regional or international science, technology and innovation systems
4. Taking action: To identify priorities and realistic possibilities for future capacity building activities in Africa – especially those aimed at strengthening African academies – and to formulate a plan of action for their effective and timely realisation.

To ensure that these issues are addressed throughout the programme, all session chairs, speakers and participants are asked to incorporate them in discussions as appropriate.