

## NEWS RELEASE



For Immediate Release

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### **STM response to Amsterdam Call for Action on Open Science**

The International Association for Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers (STM) welcomes the useful contribution of the Amsterdam Call for Action on Open Science to the discussion about how to achieve Open Science. We do note with some disappointment that the process leading to the Call for Action was not sufficiently transparent and did not reflect valuable stakeholder input.

STM considers that cooperation and collaboration between all stakeholders is vital to continue the successful and sustainable development of Open Science. STM publishers attending the Amsterdam conference all affirmed their commitment to Open Science and continued development of a wide-range of innovative solutions to advance Open Science. For example STM members offer extensive choices of where and how to publish, pre-existing open infrastructure funded through sustainable business models, innovative services to make data openly available in perpetuity, and support and tools to capture research metrics of all kinds.

As publishers, our mission is to ensure science is more reliable, efficient, and responsive to societal challenges. We believe that all in the community engaged in advancing Open Science can work together to avoid undermining the quality of published research information in the following ways:

- Recognising that there is a vibrant publishing market, with healthy competition between publishers for authors. Our success, now and in future, depends on how well we serve the needs of the research community.
- Any transition to open access publishing where costs are paid up front – often called gold open access - will cost research intensive countries more than the current system. Therefore, a transition to this form of Open Access requires joint ownership. All stakeholders – universities, funders, researchers, policy makers and publishers – need to take responsibility and share the economic burden.
- In order to be sustainable, any transition to open access reliant on the current subscription business model – often called green open access – requires embargo periods that respect distinct needs of each discipline community. Publishers already support a positive, diverse, flexible, interoperable and sustainable research communication environment that includes Green OA, with just one proviso. Green OA policies must align with sustainable funding for publication of the version of record in the absence of clear evidence of the impact of Green OA in the longer term.

- Hybrid journals have an important role to play in any transition to Open Access as they enable researchers to embrace Open Science while publishing in the quality journals of their choice.
- Publishers have invested for decades in robust, global-scale, and open infrastructure for the wide dissemination of research outputs. Rather than duplicating this effort, opportunities for collaboration and partnership can and should be embraced as they are in other markets worldwide.

The STM calls on all stakeholders to work together to continue to find and implement practical approaches to transition to Open Science in ways that are based on common principles such as public-private partnership, sustainability, economic viability, diversity and pluralism.

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### **Notes to Editors**

- 1) [STM](#) is an international association of over 120 scientific, technical, medical and scholarly publishers, collectively responsible for more than 60% of the global annual output of research articles, 55% of the active research journals and the publication of tens of thousands of print and electronic books, reference works and databases. We are the only international trade association equally representing all types of STM publishers – large and small companies, not for profit organizations, learned societies, traditional, primary, secondary publishers and new entrants to global publishing.