



Australian Government

Chief Scientist

12 July 2018

Ms Audrey Azoulay
Director General, UNESCO
7 Fontenoy Place
Paris, France

By email to WFEO: executivedirector@wfeo.net

Dear Ms Azoulay,

Support for Declaration of World Engineering Day for Climate Change Action and Sustainability

As Australia's Chief Scientist, I am writing to show my support for the declaration of 4th March of each year as **World Engineering Day for Climate Change Action and Sustainability**.

The role of Australia's Chief Scientist is threefold: to provide high-level independent advice to the Prime Minister and other Ministers on matters relating to science, technology and innovation; to represent Australian science domestically and internationally; and to be an advocate and communicator of science to the public.

As disciplines, engineering and science are inextricably linked. In many ways, major engineering projects are the best visible representations of exactly how science and mathematics contribute to our day to day lives and prosperity.

If declared, I and my office would be proud to celebrate World Engineering Day and use it to promote the role of engineering, particularly in addressing the urgent issues of climate change action and sustainability. Such celebrations would continue to improve community recognition of the importance of engineering to society and the economy.

By celebrating engineers as role models, we would also aim to see more young people of every background encouraged to continue studying science and mathematics to the highest levels, increasing the intake of future scientists, engineers and other STEM professionals into universities. This is critical for the sustainable development of our country.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, reading "Alan Finkel".

Alan Finkel AO