

1 August 2018

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

By Email to WFEO: executivedirector@wfeo.net

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

Dear Ms. Azoulay,

On behalf of the members of the Faculty of Engineering, Stellenbosch University, I am writing to indicate the strong support of our organisation for the ***Declaration of 4th March of each year as World Engineering Day for Climate Change Action and Sustainability.***

The Faculty of Engineering, Stellenbosch University is a leading research-intensive university responsible for the training of engineers in South Africa.


We have 3 000 undergraduate and 900 graduate engineering students and over 10 000 engineering alumnae all over the world.

If declared, our organisation commits to celebrating World Engineering Day with a wide range of activities that promote the role of engineering for climate change action and sustainability as we believe urgent action is needed in these areas. Such celebrations will improve community recognition of the importance of engineering to society and the economy.

The activities to celebrate World Engineering Day is expected to encourage young people, girls and boys, to raise the number of people studying science and mathematics, increasing the intake of engineers into universities. This is critical for the sustainable development of our country.

We anticipate that our activities will reach and have an impact on over two million people in our region.

Yours sincerely,



Prof Johannes L van Niekerk, PhD, PrEng, FSAAE, FSIMechE, FSAAI
Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Stellenbosch University