

TO Delegates and Representatives
First (constitutional) General Assembly
European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) Association

CONCERNS Motivation letter first President of EOSC Association from K.C.A.M. Luyben

DATE 19 November 2020

Dear friends and colleagues,

It truly is an honour to be nominated for the position of first President of the EOSC Association.

In my current role as Chair of the EOSC Executive Board I have had the great pleasure to work with a community that is as vibrant as it is diverse. Looking back on what we have achieved in Europe by working together - with the [EOSC Declaration](#) as an important milestone in 2017 - makes me proud to be part of this EOSC community. While recognising how far we have come, it is also clear that grand opportunities lie ahead.

The EOSC will enable a trusted, virtual, federated environment in Europe to store, share and re-use research data across borders and scientific disciplines on a scale that has never been possible before. We will bring together institutional, national and European initiatives and engage all relevant stakeholders to co-design and deploy a European Research Data Commons where data are Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable (FAIR).

This European contribution to a “Web of FAIR Data and Related Services for Science” will enhance the possibilities for researchers to find, share and reuse data, software and publications leading to new insights and innovations, higher research productivity and improved reproducibility in science.

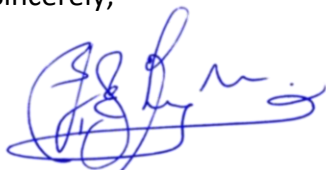
The significance of achieving this cannot be overstated and goes far beyond just the ‘sum of the parts’ (which is substantial in itself). All big challenges that face humankind need approaches that connect researchers and innovators seamlessly across disciplines, sectors and borders. To accomplish this, combining and connecting data (interoperability in the broadest sense) is more than an enabler and facilitator, it is foundational; a cornerstone for our next steps ahead as a research and innovation community.

I enjoy leading international teams to tackle important challenges, for example as demonstrated through my Presidency of the European Federation of Biotechnology (45+ members in 19 countries) and my Presidency of CESAER (50+ members in 20+ countries).

Now as we start to co-create the next exciting chapter for the EOSC, I am eager to contribute as much as I can.

While the documents provided with this letter summarise key details for my candidacy, I encourage all Delegates and Representatives to also consult [CESAER website](#) for more information. This includes Letters of Endorsement from EUA, ALLEA, Science Europe, LERU and The Guild. I humbly accept these endorsements and statements of support for my merits and experiences, and I hope you will also find me suitable to serve you as the first President of the EOSC Association.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K. Luyben', with a large, stylized initial 'K' and a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Karel Luyben