



ACADEMIA COLOMBIANA DE CIENCIAS EXACTAS, FÍSICAS Y NATURALES

September 17, 2018

To: **IANAS/TWAS-ROLAC Anneke Levelt Sengers Prize**

From:

Professor Enrique Forero
President
Colombia Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences

Dear Friends:

The Colombian Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences, in collaboration with the Colombian Network of Women Scientists, announced the Anneke Levelt Sengers Prize through its office of communication, as soon as the call for nominations was issued by IANAS/TWAS-ROLAC.

Eight nominations were received before the deadline of August 24. Our office checked to make sure that all candidates fulfilled the requirements. We can report that the eight nominees have outstanding CVs.

The president of the Colombian Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences appointed a committee of five members of the Academy of the highest possible qualifications (doctors Angela Camacho, Helena Groot, John Mario González, Enrique Vera López y Gabriela Delgado) to review the information available about the candidates. They received the nominees' CVs in advance, and were convened to meet at the Academy's headquarters in Bogotá, to further look at the documents.

The committee met on Monday, September 10. Written comments were received in advance from Dr. Ernesto Guhl, who was out of the country at the time (therefore his signature is not included in the report of the committee).

After careful consideration of the information available, the committee members were unanimous in selecting doctor Karina Caballero Gallardo to be the person nominated by the Colombian Academy, as is shown in their report to the president (attached, in Spanish). In summary, their decision was based on the following elements:

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1. The candidate received her scientific training in several Colombian institutions, working with well recognized researchers
2. The candidate has made important contributions to the study of environmental contamination and its relation to human health
3. Her work shows important impact both at the local and the regional level

Her academic and scientific leadership can be seen in her numerous publications in national and international journals, as well as in several books and book chapters. In addition, she has made important contributions to our understanding of the impact of gold and coal mining, fish parasites and their association with mercury, and the search for molecules of biotechnological interest.

Sincerely yours,

Professor Enrique Forero

President

Colombia Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences

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