



Copenhagen, February 2012

Dear Madam/Sir,

On behalf of Copenhagen Research Forum, I have the great pleasure to present the final report from the conference, offering recommendations on EU's proposal for a multi-annual research initiative, "Horizon 2020". Our goal has been to provide advice and input to Horizon 2020 to strengthen research in Europe, based on free discussions.

It is our hope that the recommendations and ideas can contribute to the ongoing negotiation and preparation of the six societal challenges that form an important part of Horizon 2020.

The Copenhagen Research Forum (CRF) invited more than 600 researchers from across Europe to contribute comments and expand on ideas concerning the six challenges. Divided into six panels, one for each challenge, recognised experts from both old and new EU member states have made contributions. This is the first time in the history of EU framework programmes that researchers, without the involvement of other stakeholders, have worked jointly to formulate a research-based critical view of the European research agenda.

There was a strong consensus across all the academic disciplines that the six societal challenges must not be seen as silos wherein experts are isolated from each other. One of the CRF's major findings is realizing that the themes and solutions to societal challenges are interacting and interdependent.

Europe needs to find solutions for growth, prosperity and safety for the next decade in the areas of health, food & agriculture, energy, transport, climate change & resources and societies. The CRF represents the European research community's commitment to contributing to a better, stronger Europe, and better, stronger research.

It is our hope that we in this way can inspire and assist in the process of finalising the framework programme, thereby contributing to fulfilling of the ambitious goals set out for Horizon 2020.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Højgaard'.

Professor Liselotte Højgaard, MD, DMSc
President of Copenhagen Research Forum