

International Workshop on 'Policy Making for Transforming Silo-Based Education to STEM Education for Developing Countries', Colombo, Sri Lanka, 24-26 March 2020

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Attachments: [Workshop Announcement on STEM Education, Colombo, March 24-26, 2020.pdf 953.4 KB] [Nomination Form_CV Format_Wksp on STEM Education, Colombo, March 24-26, 2020.docx 51.6 KB] [NAM Centre_CV Format.docx 31.3 KB]

E-MAIL

FROM : The Centre for Science and Technology of Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre)

TO:

- i. Bureau Members of the Governing Council of the NAM S&T Centre
- ii. Focal Points of the NAM S&T Centre in Member Countries
- iii. S&T-Industry Network Members of the NAM S&T Centre
- iv. Researchers and Scientists in Developing Countries

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8th January 2020

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON 'POLICY MAKING FOR TRANSFORMING SILO-BASED EDUCATION TO STEM EDUCATION FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES', COLOMBO, SRI LANKA, 24-26 MARCH 2020

Greetings from the Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre)!!

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) related subjects are taught in silos at schools and it requires modern methods of integrated learning to change the mindset of learners. STEM approach to education is aimed at revolutionizing transformation of silo-based education of science and mathematics by incorporating technology and engineering into regular curriculum and creating a "meta-discipline system". STEM Education attempts to transform the typical teacher-centered classroom by encouraging a curriculum that is driven by problem-solving, discovery, exploratory learning, and requires students to actively engage in a situation to find its solutions to the problems.

In order to address the above mentioned issues in the education system, the *Centre for Science & Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre)* jointly with the *Ministry of Higher Education, Technology and Innovation, Sri Lanka* and the *National Science Foundation (NSF), Sri Lanka* announces the organization of an **International Workshop on 'Policy Making for Transforming Silo-Based Education to STEM Education for Developing Countries'**, Colombo, Sri Lanka from 24-26 March 2020 and invites applications for the same from senior scientists, engineers, researchers, government officials, academicians and policy makers. The main objectives of the workshop are to assess the current status of STEM education in developing countries and ascertain gaps in knowledge and identify and develop a research agenda to address relevant gaps in syllabuses, implementation programmes, etc. relevant to STEM education in developing countries.

The following may please be noted:

- (a) Last date for submission of applications to attend the Workshop is **Wednesday, 12th February 2020**. Only limited seats are available for participation in this event. Since a large number of applications are expected, early response is advisable to avoid disappointment.
- (b) Application (**except from Sri Lanka**) for participation in the Workshop may please be made only to the NAM S&T Centre (E-mail: namstcentre@gmail.com) in the Application Form enclosed with the **attached** Announcement brochure. Applicants from Sri Lanka, however, should send their Application Forms only to NSF, Sri Lanka.
- (c) Selection of applicants will be made strictly based on merit and relevance of their current responsibilities to the subject of the Workshop as well as the quality of the extended abstract of the paper submitted by them along with the completed Application Form.
It is mandatory for all the participants to present a country status report and/or a research/scientific paper relevant to STEM Education (or Science Education) of their country on any of the aspects indicated in Page-6 of the Announcement brochure, and an extended abstract (in MS-Word format) of the paper proposed to be presented should be submitted along with the application form.
Further, the participants must submit the full manuscript of their papers (in MS-Word format), at least 14 days before the commencement of the programme.
- (d) Free local hospitality, including accommodation and meals will be provided by the Sri Lankan hosts to the foreign participants from 23rd March (afternoon) to 27th March 2020 (forenoon) (i.e. commencing from one day before the workshop and for an additional day after its conclusion). The participants should arrange their flight schedules accordingly; otherwise, they will have to make their own arrangement of stay beyond these days.
Transport will also be provided to the participants free of any cost for their airport transfer and for visits in connection with the Workshop.
- (e) **For applications received from member countries of the NAM S&T Centre, which are regularly paying their annual subscription:** The NAM S&T Centre will provide return international airfare by Excursion Class by Shortest Route to only one official nominee of each country, *provided the application is routed through the Focal Point of the NAM S&T Centre in the applicant's country.*
In this connection, the **Focal Points may please note** that the NAM S&T Centre will consider only one official nomination from a member country for full financial support by the Centre, subject to the availability of seats and the applicant fulfilling all the above stated criteria. Any additional nominations from the Focal Points may also be considered subject to the availability of seats, but such applicants would have to arrange for their international fare and would also be required to make payment of a Processing Fee of US\$500 to the Centre in advance.
- (e) **For applications received from the member countries of the NAM S&T Centre defaulting on the payment of their annual dues:** Selected nominees of the Focal Points from those of the member countries that are overdue on the payment of their annual subscription and any other selected applicants will make their own arrangement for international travel and will also be required to make payment of a Processing Fee of US\$500 to the Centre in advance.
- (f) **For nominations received from the S&T-Industry Network Members of the NAM S&T Centre:** The NAM S&T – Industry Network entitles each Network Member, which has no outstanding dues against its membership subscription, to get invitation for two nominees each year with full finances paid by the Centre for participation in appropriate activities organised by the Centre. Accordingly, if a Network Member has still not fully availed of this privilege and desires to make a nomination for attending this Workshop, the NAM S&T Centre will provide return international airfare by Excursion Class by Shortest Route to such official nominee of the Network member, if selected.

Any additional nominee(s) of the paying S&T-Industry Network Members, as well as the nominees of those Network Members, which are overdue on the payment of their annual network membership subscription, if selected, will make their own arrangement for international travel and will also be required to make payment of a Processing Fee of US\$500 to the Centre in advance.

- (g) **For applicants from the countries which are not members of the NAM S&T Centre and any other applicants in their individual capacity from countries other than Sri Lanka:** They may send the completed Application Form directly to the NAM S&T Centre. If selected, they will be required to pay a Processing Fee of US\$500 to the NAM S&T Centre in advance and will also make own arrangement for their international travel.
- (h) Other details are available in the **attached** Announcement.
- (i) Information on the member countries and S&T-Industry Network Members of the NAM S&T Centre and names/addresses of the Focal Points may be seen on the Centre's website www.namstct.org.
- (j) English will be the official language of the Workshop.

As far as possible, **all correspondence may please be made by email. Kindly avoid sending us fax messages or hard copies to save paper and energy.**

All documents may be prepared in MS-Word Format or electronically scanned and sent as attachments to the email.

This is a general circular and you are requested to kindly forward this announcement to the concerned individuals as well as Ministries/Departments, S&T organisations, universities and academic institutions and related agencies in your country.

We solicit your kind cooperation in getting the best suited applicants for attending this valuable Workshop.

Amitava Bandopadhyay, Ph D

Director General, NAM S&T Centre

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Dr. Amitava Bandopadhyay,

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