Funding of first-time professorial appointments of excellent women scientists (W2/W3) – April 27, 2022

# Annex 4: Declaration with regard to the proposal of six unbiased reviewers in the relevant field

Impartiality issues and conflicts of interest may exist in relation to the research project, the candidate, or the current and future research institutes the candidate is associated with.

**Impartiality issues / conflicts of interest may for example arise if the reviewer:**

* is employed by or plays an active role at a Helmholtz Center.
* was the doctoral supervisor and/or the superior of the candidate.
* has a family relationship or close personal ties or contacts with a researcher involved in the application.
* is in close current or planned scientific cooperation with a researcher involved in the application.
* has been in a dependent employment or supervisory relationship (such as a teacher-student relationship at any level up to and including the postdoc phase) with a researcher involved in the application.
* is preparing a proposal or carrying out a project closely related to the candidate’s research topic (direct scientific competition).
* has had a joint publication or has been actively engaged in cooperative research efforts with a researcher involved in the application within the last five years.
* has engaged in intensive use of the research center’s facilities within the last five years.
* is currently or has been in an employment relationship with the respective Helmholtz Center or the current employer within the last five years.
* is or has been involved in an ongoing or failed appointment procedure with any of the university partners involved.
* has personal commercial interests of relevance to the application.

Please name **six potential reviewers** and make sure that **at least two** of them are **women scientists**. Please refrain from nominating only the most prominent scientists in your research field, as it may be difficult to obtain an assessment.

Please list the proposed reviewers to the application as a **separate Excel sheet** (Annex 3) with complete contact and address data including e-mail. Please **disclose possible points of contact** with the reviewers and sign to confirm that no potential bias is known.

Important note: If the bias criteria are not observed, we reserve the right to reject applications before the review process.

**I hereby confirm that I am not aware of any conflict of interest with the persons named in the attached Excel sheet (Annex 3).**

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*Place, date*

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*Signature of the nominated candidate*

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*First and last name of the nominated candidate*