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IEA Announces Election of New Chair: Dr Thierry Rocher

IEA (the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement) is pleased to announce the commencement of Dr Thierry Rocher's three year term as Chair of the organisation. Dr Rocher was elected with unanimous approval at the IEA General Assembly meeting, held in October 2018 in Astana, Kazakhstan.

Dr Rocher joins IEA at an exciting time: the organization recently celebrated its 60th anniversary, the flagship Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) 2019 is in progress with its first e-assessment cycle and the results from the 2018 cycle of International Computer and Information Literacy Study (ICILS) will be released this November.

Commenting on his appointment, Dr Rocher said:

"I was honoured to be elected Chair of IEA by my fellow General Assembly colleagues, and am excited to get started. During my term as Chair, I am determined to increase the visibility of IEA, and to focus on how we can combine our existing expertise and excellence with new ideas.

"A great strength of IEA studies is that they are grounded in the field of education, closely linked to countries' curricula and connected to educational debates. They are also methodologically very robust, which results in reliable, comparable indicators and long-term trends. Policy-makers, researchers and practitioners acknowledge the quality of the IEA studies.

"The continued role of IEA is clear: to develop expertise and new areas of research on these topics, emerging from various disciplines. In my opinion, IEA should be at the forefront of innovation in educational research. As Chair, I will do my best to drive the organization forward responsibly and sustainably."

IEA Executive Director, Dr Dirk Hastedt commented:

"I am delighted to welcome Dr Rocher as the new IEA Chair. He is a leading expert in his field and he brings a wealth of experience to the role. I'm looking forward to working with Thierry to expand IEA's mission of researching education to improve learning".

While Dr Rocher's term as Chair officially began on January 1st, tomorrow (16th January) marks his first visit to the IEA Secretariat in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. **Dr Rocher and Dr Hastedt will both be available for interview/comment.**

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Notes to Editors:

[The International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement](#) (IEA) is an independent, international cooperative of national research institutions and governmental research agencies. It conducts large-scale comparative studies of educational achievement and other aspects of education, with the aim of gaining in-depth understanding of the effects of policies and practices within and across systems of education.

IEA studies measure student achievement in subjects such as mathematics and science ([TIMSS](#)), reading ([PIRLS](#)), civic and citizenship education ([ICCS](#)), and computer and information literacy ([ICILS](#)). IEA is the only external knowledge provider to the European Commission, as well as providing research services and expertise for partner organizations including the OECD and the World Bank. UNESCO recognizes IEA studies as providing a solid evidence base for researchers, educators and policymakers interested in monitoring progress towards Sustainable Development Goals.

Dr Thierry Rocher is the Head of Office for Student Assessment DEPP (Directorate for Statistics) at the Ministry of Education, France. He was the French representative to the General Assembly of IEA from 2011 to 2018 and a member of the Standing Committee from 2014 to 2017. He was President of the Association for Educational Assessment-Europe (AEA-Europe) 2016 to 2018, and has been the French representative at the PISA Governing Board since 2017.

The Chair of IEA is elected for a three year, renewable, term. The Standing Committee of the organisation acts as an election committee, who propose candidates to the General Assembly. At the IEA General Assembly meeting held in Astana, Kazakhstan, in October 2018, members elected Dr Rocher unanimously to serve from 2019 to 2021.

For further information, or to arrange interviews, please contact:

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