



Ref: IAIUYDIR/2021/014

16 July 2021

NOTIFICATION

Subject: New Belmont Forum Executive Director

Dear Madam, Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that the Belmont Forum has announced that Dr. Nicole Arbour has accepted the position as its new Executive Director effective 19 July 2021. Dr. Arbour will be tasked in assisting the Belmont Forum to reach its vision by promoting international transdisciplinary research to provide knowledge for understanding, mitigating and adapting to global environmental change.

Dr. Arbour, a Canadian national, is currently the External Relations Manager at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), where she plays an active role in building and maintaining relationships with members and partner organizations. She has held roles of Senior Advisor, International Relations at the National Research Council Canada (NRC), Team Lead for the United Kingdom's Science and Innovation Network (SIN) in Canada and has also worked as a research scientist in the Canadian biotech sector.

Parties may recall that during the Belmont Forum plenary meeting, on 7 November 2017, in São Paulo, Brazil, the Belmont Forum Executive Council accepted the IAI Directorate's Expression of Interest to host its Secretariat in Montevideo, Uruguay (Notification no. IAIUYDIR/2017/003). The Belmont Forum's partnership of funding organizations, international science councils, and regional consortia committed to the advancement of transdisciplinary science complements exceptionally well the objectives of the IAI.

The Americas have gained from this enhanced relationship between the Belmont Forum and the IAI Directorate, including much needed expertise in reaching out to donors and funding agencies and also offering to IAI Member Countries new opportunities for the establishment of collaborative initiatives. An example of this mutually beneficial partnership is the IAI's participation in the Belmont Forum's Collaborative Research Action on Climate, Environment, and Health (CEH2). Another example is the Belmont Forum's support in assisting Parties to establish a flexible funding mechanism for the Americas.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Marcos Regis da Silva
Executive Director