

## Meeting of the ISESCO's Women Chairs in Science, Technology and Innovation: For Elaboration of Common Guide Action Plan



A joint meeting of the presidents of ISESCO Women Science Chairs was held in ISESCO's Headquarters, Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco in order to elaborate an Action Plan by women chairs at ISESCO's Member States. The meeting was held on 7 to 9 March 2017 which coincided with the Women's International Day. Dr. Bushra Mirza, from Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad participated in the meeting as the president of ISESCO Women Chair in Pakistan.

A comprehensive Road map was developed in this meeting and an action plan was proposed for next 5 years on the following identified objectives:

- Promotion of sustainable leadership of women scientists and technologists
- Cultivation of a new generation of women scientists and technologists
- Development and maintenance of a mechanism for the efficiency of the Program of Women Chairs

It was realized that the achievement of these objectives requires several measures which include strong networking, capacity building, utilization of new ICT technologies and trends, promotion of gender sensitized environment, projection of female role models and financial sustainability. ISESCO Women Science Chairs will play a pivotal role to execute the activities recommend in the

action plan. Each president of the chair will be focal person for the assigned activities and will develop a team to support her. It would require increasing the number of chairs from existing number of three to five or six. The activities to be performed will include:

- Setting up network of Women Scientists through Women Chairs
- Increasing Visibility, Projection and Communication of women scientists
- Grants and Awards to the individual or institutions who supported women scientists
- Capacity building on writing grants proposals, entrepreneurship and soft skills
- Developing mechanism of raising funding and monitoring for the proposed activities

