

YEARS / ANS CERN

Professor Rolf HEUER Director-General CERN/DG CH - 1211 Geneva 23

Tel. direct:

+ 41 22 767 2300 Tel. secretariat: + 41 22 767 4054/1240

Telefax:

+ 41 22 767 8995

Email:

rolf.heuer@cern.ch

Our reference: DG/2014-280

Mr. Rasmus PREHN

Chair of the Parliament subcommittee for Science & Education Uddannelses- og Forskningsudvalget

**Folketinget** Christiansborg

DK-1240 København K

Geneva, 29 August 2014

Sixty years of CERN - sixty years of Science for Peace

Dear Mr. Prehn.

I have the pleasure and the honour to invite you to our laboratory, to attend the Official Ceremony that will mark the Sixtieth Anniversary of the European Organization for Nuclear Research, and which will be held in Geneva, Switzerland, on 29 September 2014.

Founded in 1954, CERN was one of Europe's first intergovernmental organisations and has become an outstanding example of international collaboration. Today, CERN is the world's largest laboratory for fundamental physics, hosting more than 11'000 scientists and engineers from around the world working on its research projects, including 67 scientists and engineers from 8 universities and research institutions in

CERN's primary subject of study is the fundamental science of particle physics, which seeks to unlock the innermost secrets of the universe. Since your first visit to the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), CERN's flagship project, it has launched a new era of scientific research and discovery. Experiments at the LHC announced the observation of the Higgs boson in 2012, one of the most significant breakthroughs in the history of science, the theoretical foundations of which have been recognised with last year's Nobel Prize in Physics awarded to Professors François Englert and Peter Higgs.

CERN also plays a vital role in advanced capacity-building through academic and technical education and training. From materials science to superconductivity and computing, particle physics demands ultimate technical performance, making CERN an important test-bed for advanced technological developments in close collaboration with industry.

In order to mark its gratitude and appreciation to its Member States for their continued support, the Organization considers it important to celebrate this significant milestone in an appropriate manner. CERN would be greatly honoured by your presence at the Official Ceremony, which would also give you the opportunity to visit some of our scientific facilities and to witness our work first hand.

Yours sincerely,

**Rolf Heuer**