

Comments for the Draft Recommendation on Open Science – Republic of Korea

Republic of Korea would like to express sincere gratitude to UNESCO's effort for forming the Recommendation on Open Science in that it can lay the basis for the innovation for humanity as a whole. Republic of Korea would like to give a few comments on the draft as follows:

1. It seems the draft lays out the background and appropriateness of the Recommendation, definition of the concept of Open Science, core values and guiding principles, and seven key areas of action in detail.
2. Republic of Korea agrees that the role of citizen participant is important in Open Science activities. However, instead of just a mere statement, it would be better to specify how citizens can be part of Open Science activities. In particular, the meaning of 19 (f) "Including citizen and participatory science as integral parts of Open Science policies and practices at the national, institutional and funder levels" seems vague.
3. The roles of Open Science actors such as country and research institution are mentioned, but the role of researchers should be more emphasized because taking Open Science as a paradigm shift of scientific research, the attitude of researchers in the field is the most important.
5. It is questionable if Open Notebooks should be included in II 9 (v) ("Open Evaluation"). It seems to be too excessive to include it in the Recommendation. Instead of "open or not open" approach, it should be recommended to open the research process and insights within existing institutional frameworks. It would be difficult to include all specific details (e.g. by when, to what extent) in the Recommendation. Rather, we should find a way to encourage the opening of research process, for example, incentives.
6. Republic of Korea suggests removing or changing the paragraph 22, which states that "Member States, according to their specific conditions, governing structures and constitutional provisions, are recommended to actively engage in removing the barriers and disincentives for Open Science, particularly those relating to research and career evaluation and awards Systems." because institutionalizing research and career evaluation and awards system according to the Open Science can have negative side effects such as meaningless sharing and opening of data.
7. Republic of Korea hopes that the draft can be developed into a simpler, more clear and balanced text so that policy makers can understand it easily.