**Appendix to the fact sheet Development of the scientific research profile of the Netherlands - Developments of scientific disciplines**

Some fields of science include many different scientific disciplines. In order to be able to say something at a more detailed level, data was also generated for the scientific disciplines. These disciplines cannot be translated into the fields of science, but they do provide a more detailed picture of the Dutch research landscape.

The figure below shows the citation impact score for each scientific discipline for 2016. Furthermore, a bullet point indicates what the score was in 2003. We see that the Netherlands is doing very well. For almost all disciplines, the value is (well) above 1.0 (the global average). Only Maths and Instruments and instruments score just below the world average. Both score in around 1.2 in the past, but in recent years the citation impact score has been around 1.0.

The figure shows that the citation impact score increases or remains approximately the same for the "medical" and "gamma" sciences. Exception is basic medical sciences, which fall slightly. In the "natural sciences" we see a more mixed picture. There are four disciplines where the citation impact score has fallen by more than 10%: Computer Sciences, Electrical Engineering, Mathematics and Instruments and instruments.

The figure below shows the increase (in percentages) in the number of publications per discipline over the period 2003-2016. One can see that there is a large variety. Where Political Sciences has increased by more than 300%, the percentage for Computer Sciences has fallen slightly (-8%). The figure also shows the average increase of the reference countries in and excluding China (in percentages). Then we see that the rise in Political Sciences is indeed striking and that the fall in Computer Science fits with the developments in the reference countries. A possible explanation could be that in Computer Sciences "conference proceedings" is an important publication channel, which is not included in our data selection. Political Sciences and Educational Sciences are striking. They have risen 223% and 175% more than the reference countries, excluding China.

What is further noticeable in the picture is that, particularly in the disciplines in “natural sciences” and “engineering” the Netherlands is rising less rapidly than the reference countries, even if China is excluded. We see the most striking differences in Fundamental Medical Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics, which respectively rose 41, 34 and 30 percentage points less than the reference countries, excluding China.