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Higher Education, Research and Innovation  
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Mr. Shigefumi Mori  
President  
International Mathematical  
Union  
Secretariat  
Markgrafenstr. 32.  
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Dear Mr. President,

The mathematics community in Strasbourg, on behalf of France's mathematics community as a whole, has told me about plans to organize the International Congress of Mathematicians – the discipline's most prestigious international gathering, which takes place every four years and will be hosted in Rio de Janeiro in 2018 – in France in 2022.

As stated, this event takes place in two stages – the International Mathematical Union's General Assembly, then the International Congress of Mathematicians – and these two events are supposed to take place in different cities.

I am honored to confirm that Strasbourg City and Eurometropolis would see it as a privilege to team up with Paris to host this prominent event, as I know that the world of international mathematical research and science looks forward to it as an exciting highlight. At the same time, hosting this event would shed light on France's excellence in this field, and on the fact that our country is proud to count 12 Fields medalists as well as numerous mathematicians who have been rewarded with other distinctions.

This proposal dovetails beautifully with our two cities' aims to develop close ties and cooperate actively with local partners, in particular including the University of Strasbourg, which oversees the Institut de Recherche Mathématique Avancée (IRMA) and is home to research professionals working on the national and international scenes. This is why, if Paris is one of the few French cities that can host such a large-scale event, Strasbourg's position as a European capital in touch with the scientific world would add a complementary dimension and enhance the event's exposure.

We have several leads to explore and will provide Congress organizers with a variety of dedicated facilities and infrastructure. We will be happy to tell you about the wide range of options and the quality of Strasbourg's infrastructure in more detail during a more in-depth review of Paris' and Strasbourg's joint bid.

I am excited about the French mathematics community's initiative looking at ICM 2022 and about the prospect of holding it in France, and especially enthusiastic about his opportunity for Strasbourg to bid to host the IMU General Assembly.

I look forward to hearing about your organization's decision.

Yours sincerely,

Nicolas Matt