September 29th, 2017

Dr. Michel Miguel Elias Temer Lulia
Presidência da República
Praça dos Três Poderes, Palácio do Planalto, 3º Andar
70.150-900 Brasília/DF

Your Excellency, President Michel Temer,

We, the undersigned Nobel Laureates, are writing to express our strong concern about the situation of Science and Technology in Brazil. The budget for research of the Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovations, and Communications had a cut of 44% in 2017, and a new cut of 15.5% is expected for 2018. This will damage the country for many years, with the dismantling of internationally renowned research groups and a brain drain affecting the best young scientists.

While in other countries the economic crisis has led sometimes to budget cuts for science of the order of 5-10%, a cut at the level of more than 50% is impossible to accommodate, and will seriously jeopardize the future of the country.

We know that the economic situation in Brazil is very difficult, but we urge you to reconsider your decision before it is too late.

Yours sincerely,

Claude Cohen-Tannoudji and 22 co-signing Nobel Laureates
19997 Nobel Laureate of Physics
Laboratoire LKB-ENS
24 Rue Lhomond-Paris 05
Email: claude.cohen-tannoudji@lkb.ens.fr