Right of reply by Olivier Voinnet to the CNRS

Mr. Olivier VOINNET wishes to specify that no scientific misconduct was held against him by the Disciplinary Council of the CNRS held on July 10, 2018, which, on the contrary, issued unanimously less one abstention a notice unfavorable to the pronouncement of any sanction, and, if a sanction were nevertheless to take place, a unanimous recommendation against its publication.

The President of the CNRS having no obligation to follow them, he was thus overridden these recommendations by imposing, on the one hand, a reprimand on Mr VOINNET with respect to his "responsibility as group leader" and by proceeding, on the other hand, to the publication of a press release on October 3, 2018, entitled "Scientific misconduct: the CNRS announces penalties against two senior researchers".

This press release puts forward supposed shortcomings in Mr. VOINNET's management of corrigenda issued during the year 2015, yet he had stopped his fonctions of "group leader" at CNRS since 2010, following his secondment at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich.

The Disciplinary Council, in addition, appropriately retained, in its opinion of July 10, 2018, that "Mr. VOINNET alerted the other authors of the problems raised on the disputed articles and the corrigenda, as soon as he came to know" while he was pursued and heard by the Council only as a co-author, and not as a "group leader".

Therefore, it cannot be in any way noted, or even suspected in an allusive manner, that Mr VOINNET failed in any way to his duty of scientific probity, in view of the complaints made in the frame of the second disciplinary procedure.