June 23, 2020

AAAS Statement on Executive Order on Immigration and Visas

“Restricting immigration does not make America great or safe. The United States has benefited immensely from the free exchange of knowledge and ideas. For many decades, the U.S. had been a welcoming place for immigrant and non-immigrant scientists making significant contributions to science and technology that directly benefit us all. Immigrants lead and support research throughout this country to develop medical treatments, track the spread of COVID-19, improve food safety, and much more. Preventing highly-skilled scientists and postdocs from entering the U.S. will harm American science and threatens our scientific leadership. Elected policymakers have an important responsibility as they consider policies and legislative options that address immigration and national security. Many of the proposed ‘solutions’ risk further isolating the United States and exacerbating the perception that our nation is no longer welcoming. We cannot afford to cede leadership to other countries who will gladly welcome scientists and students in our place.”

— Sudip Parikh, chief executive officer, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)

###

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) is the world’s largest general scientific society and publisher of the journal Science, as well as Science Translational Medicine; Science Signaling; a digital, open-access journal, Science Advances; Science Immunology; and Science Robotics. AAAS was founded in 1848 and includes nearly 250 affiliated societies and academies of science, serving 10 million individuals. Science has the largest paid circulation of any peer-reviewed general science journal in the world. The nonprofit AAAS is open to all and fulfills its mission to “advance science and serve society” through initiatives in science policy, international programs, science education, public engagement, and more. For additional information about AAAS, see www.aaas.org.