Information for Reviewers

I. Policy Statement

ZDM is an international journal on mathematics education. The journal exists to survey, discuss and extend current research-based and theoretical perspectives as well as to create a forum for critical analyses of issues within mathematics education. The audience is predominantly mathematics education researchers around the world interested in current developments in the field.

The papers appearing in the seven themed issues per year are strictly by invitation only followed by internal peer review by the guest editors and external review by invited experts. An article accepted for publication must be of high quality and should make a significant contribution to the field. In addition, the article should be an original paper and not been published elsewhere.

II. The Review process

All papers undergo peer-review. Papers are to be reviewed according to the following criteria, however the review shall be done in a free style and shall only cover these criteria:

Concerning the scientific quality of the paper:

- Is the paper a meaningful contribution to mathematics education research?
- Is the approach or the argumentation original and does the paper develop new insights into relevant research questions on mathematics education?
- Does the paper review previous studies and does it consider the relevant literature in the field?
- Is the theoretical frame adequate, is there an appropriate alignment between the theoretical framework and the questions asked or the problems tackled?
- Is the methodological approach adequate, i.e. do the research methods and analyses match the problem or question?
- Are the argumentations consistent, are the claims and conclusions justified in an acceptable way, do they follow logically from the data or other information presented?

Concerning the quality of the presentation:

- Is the title suitable and is the abstract distinct and adequate?
- Is the writing lucid, clear, and well-organised?
- Is the quality of the figures and tables adequate?
In addition, reviewers are asked to make one of the following recommendations:

- Accept without changes
- Accept with minor changes
- Accept with significant changes
- Rewrite the paper
- Reject the paper

Reviewers should write a commentary on the paper analysing the strengths, weaknesses and limitations of the article and the research reported. The reviewer’s comments should be as explicit, detailed and constructive as possible, in order to provide the editors with a sound basis for their decision and to help the author to revise the paper, if necessary. Reviewers have the discretion to differentiate between a commentary to the editors and comments to the authors.