

## **STATUTES OF UNESCO IPDC PRIZE FOR RURAL COMMUNICATION**

### **ARTICLE 1 – PURPOSE**

The purpose of the UNESCO-IPDC Prize for Rural Communication is to draw attention to particularly meritorious and innovative activities undertaken by public or private institutions or by persons or groups of persons working on a personal basis or as staff members of such institutions with a view to improving communication in all its forms - and more particularly local newspapers, radio and television programmes, printing equipment and films in rural communities, primarily in developing countries.

### **ARTICLE 2 – DESIGNATION, AMOUNT AND PERIODICITY OF THE PRIZE**

2.1 The Prize shall be entitled “UNESCO-IPDC Prize for Rural Communication”.

2.2 The UNESCO-IPDC Prize for Rural Communication shall be funded from the Special Account for the UNESCO-IPDC Prize for Rural Communication, which is to be established under the financial regulations for the Prize. The monetary value of the Prize shall consist of a sum of US \$ 20 000.

2.3 All funds received and the interest accrued shall be kept in the Special Account for the UNESCO-IPDC Prize for Rural Communication.

2.4 The full staff support and operating/management costs of the Prize, including all costs related to the award ceremony and public information activities, estimated at US \$ 18 000 shall be fully covered from the Special Account for the UNESCO-IPDC Prize for Rural Communication. To this end, the Director-General will determine a mandatory overhead cost amount to be applied and charged against the funds in the Special Account for the UNESCO-IPDC Prize for Rural Communication .

2.5 The Prize shall be awarded once every two years. A Prize amount may be equally divided between up to two winners, each of which is considered to merit a Prize.

### **ARTICLE 3 – CONDITIONS/QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES**

Candidates shall have made a significant contribution to promote rural communication in the spirit of UNESCO’s ideals by:

- furthering the use of local newspaper, films, radio television and / or multi-media programmes;
- furthering the use of traditional and new forms of communication;
- implementing new plans with a view to the full use or improvement of communication and its techniques and methods in ways adapted to the rural environment.

Prizes may be conferred upon individuals, institutions, other entities or non-governmental organizations.

## **ARTICLE 4 – DESIGNATION/SELECTION OF PRIZE-WINNER/S**

The Prize-winner(s) shall be selected by the Director-General of UNESCO on the basis of the assessments and recommendations made to him/her by the Jury, composed of the members of the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication.

## **ARTICLE 5 –JURY**

5.1 The Jury shall consist of the 8 members of the Bureau of that Council, serving in that capacity on a personal basis. Jurors involved in a real or potential conflict of interest shall recuse themselves from further deliberations or be asked by the Director-General to do so.

5.2 The Jury shall elect its own Chair and Deputy-Chair. Members shall receive no remuneration for their work, but will receive allowances for travel and accommodation, where required. A quorum of 5 present will be required for Jury deliberations to proceed. The working languages for deliberations by the Jury shall be English and French.

5.3 The Jury shall conduct its business and deliberations in conformity with these Statutes, and shall be assisted in the performance of its task by a member of the UNESCO Secretariat designated by the Director-General. Decisions shall be taken by consensus to the extent possible and otherwise by secret ballot until a simple majority is obtained. A member shall not take part in a vote concerning a nomination from his or her country.

5.4 The Jury shall meet once every 2 years.

5.5 The Jury shall send an assessment of nominations and accompanying recommendations to the Director-General of UNESCO no later than 28 February, every 2 years.

## **ARTICLE 6 — NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES**

6.1 When UNESCO has received the funding of the Prize, as indicated in Article 2 above, the Director-General of UNESCO shall officially invite the submission of the nominations to the Secretariat of the Prize by 30 August every 2 years, from the governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, as well as from non-governmental organizations maintaining formal consultative relations with the Organization and active in relevant fields covered by the Prize.

6.2 Nominations shall be submitted to the Director-General of UNESCO by the Governments of Member States of the Organization in consultation with their National Commissions, as well as by non-governmental organizations maintaining formal consultative relations with UNESCO and active in relevant fields covered by the Prize. A self-nomination cannot be considered.

6.3 Each nomination shall be accompanied by a written recommendation, which shall include, in English or French, *inter alia*:

(a) a description of the candidate's background and achievements;

(b) a summary of the work or the results of the work, publications and other supporting documents of major importance, submitted for consideration;

(c) a definition of the candidate's contribution to the Prize's objectives.

#### **ARTICLE 7 – PROCEDURE FOR THE AWARDING OF THE PRIZE**

7.1 The Prize shall be awarded by the Director-General at an official ceremony held for that purpose on the occasion of a session of the Intergovernmental Council of the IPDC. UNESCO shall present to the Prizewinner/s a check for the amount of the Prize as well as a diploma. UNESCO shall officially announce the name/s of the Prizewinner/s.

7.2 If a work being rewarded has been produced by two or three persons, the Prize shall be awarded to them jointly. In no case may a Prize amount be divided between more than two winners.

7.3 The Prize winner/s, if possible, shall give a lecture on a subject relevant to the work for which the Prize has been awarded. Such a lecture shall be organized during or in connection with the Prize ceremony.

7.4 The work produced by a person since deceased shall not be considered for the Prize. If, however, a Prize winner dies before he or she has received the Prize, then the Prize may be presented posthumously (awarded to relatives or institution).

7.5 Should a Prize winner decline the Prize, the jury shall submit a new proposal to the Director-General.

#### **ARTICLE 8 – SUNSET CLAUSE – MANDATORY RENEWAL OF THE PRIZE**

8.1 After a period of six years, the Director-General of UNESCO together with the Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Council of the IPDC will undertake a review of all aspects of the Prize and decide of its continuation or termination. The Director-General will inform the Executive Board of UNESCO of the results of this review.

8.2 In case of the termination of the Prize, the use of any unspent balance of funds shall be determined by the Director-General, in accordance with the financial regulations for the Prize.

#### **ARTICLE 9 – APPEALS**

No appeals shall be allowed against the decision with regard to the award of the Prize. Proposals received for the award of a Prize may not be divulged.

#### **ARTICLE 10 – AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES OF THE PRIZE**

Any amendment to the present Statutes shall be submitted to the Executive Board for approval.