



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Ref.: CL/4170

Subject: **Call for nominations for the 2016/2017 UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities**

Sir/Madam,

I have the honour to invite your Government to submit nominations for the 2016/2017 UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, in line with the information provided hereunder.

The aim of the Prize, which was renewed by the Executive Board at its 199th session, is to reward the outstanding contributions of individuals and organizations that promote inclusion and the enhancement of the lives of persons with disabilities in society through the effective, innovative and inclusive application of digital solutions.

Candidates (individuals and institutions) must have distinguished themselves through outstanding activities that have contributed to the digital empowerment of persons with disabilities, with an emphasis on removing barriers to accessing information and knowledge using digital solutions.

All applicants must complete the application form enclosed, either in English or French, available separately for individuals and institutions online at the following Internet address: <http://en.unesco.org/prizes/digital-empowerment> . The completed forms also can be returned in paper format to the following address, no later than on 15 September, 2016:

UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for Digital
Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
Communication and Information Sector
7 place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris 07 SP
France

Nominations may be endorsed by and proposed to UNESCO by National Commissions for UNESCO and non-governmental organizations maintaining official relations with the Organization.

The prizewinners will be designated by the Director-General on the basis of the proposals submitted by an international jury consisting of highly qualified professionals in the field from different regions of the world. The Prize shall consist of a diploma and the sum of US \$20,000 for each of two prizewinners.

Copies of the statutes and application guidelines, as well as of the application forms for individual and institutional nominations, are enclosed herewith. Further information regarding the call for 2016/2017 nominations is available on the UNESCO website indicated above. The candidates are encouraged to complete online forms available for individuals and organizations. Additional information (publications, video, audio and other resources) may be attached to the online nomination form. They will be presented to the international jury and will subsequently be used by UNESCO for any pertinent purposes.

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Irina Bokova
Director-General

Encls: Statutes of Prize
Application Guidelines
Application Form

cc: National Commissions for UNESCO
Permanent Delegations to UNESCO
Non-governmental organizations with official relations to UNESCO



The Statutes of the Prize

UNESCO/Emir Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

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Article 1 – Purpose

The purpose of UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities is to promote inclusion of persons with disabilities in society, translating human rights and fundamental freedoms into action, with emphasis on removing barriers to access information and knowledge, as well as learning and participation in society through the effective application of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs).

The objective of the Prize is in conformity with UNESCO's policies and is related to the Programme of the Organization in the field of Enabling Universal Access and Preservation of Information and Knowledge, and has linkages to UNESCO programme in education, social and human sciences.

Article 2 – Designation, amount and periodicity of the Prize

2.1 The Prize shall be entitled “UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities”.

2.2. The Prize shall be funded by the Government of the State of Kuwait and shall consist of a contribution of US \$251,948.88 for the two-year cycle of the Prize covering the editions 2016/2017 and 2018/2019. For the third edition 2020/2021 of the Prize, the Donor will provide additional funding. As determined by the Director-General, the interest on the sum will be deposited in the special account for the Prize, in accordance with the Financial Regulations of UNESCO, and the charges will be borne by the account for the cost of administering the Prize. The Prize shall consist of a total of US \$40,000, equally divided between two prize-winners. The Prize will comprise also a diploma.

2.3. All funds received and the interest accrued thereon shall be kept in a special interest-bearing account for the Prize.

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 \$251,948.88 for the two-year cycle covering the editions 2016/2017 and 2018/2019 shall be fully covered by the Government of the State of Kuwait. For the third edition 2020/201 of the Prize, the Donor will provide additional funding of US \$125,974. 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, which is to be established under the financial regulations for the Prize.

2.5. The Prize shall be awarded every two years.

Article 3 – Conditions/Qualifications of candidates

Candidates shall have made a significant contribution to the cause of inclusion of persons with disabilities in society. Prizes may be conferred upon individuals, institutions, other entities or non-governmental organizations.

Article 4 – Designation/Selection of the Prize-winner/s

The Prize-winner/s, comprised of two laureates, shall be selected by the Director-General of UNESCO on the basis of the assessments and recommendations made to him/her by a Jury.
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Article 5 – Jury

5.1 The Jury shall consist of a number of five independent members, consisting of personalities with a recognized reputation in the field covered, while also taking into consideration the need for equitable geographical distribution, gender equality and the principle of non-payment of honoraria. They shall be appointed by the Director-General for two-year period and for a maximum period of six years. Representatives and alternatives of Member of the Executive Board cannot be appointed as jurors. 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. The Director-General may replace members of the jury for reason.

5.2 The Jury shall elect its own chair and deputy chair. Members shall receive no remuneration for their work, but will be receive allowances for travel and accommodation, where required. A quorum of three jurors present will be required for jury deliberations to proceed. The working languages for deliberations by a 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 of the Jury 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 two 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 nominations to the Secretariat of the Prize, by 10 June of the year of the award, from the governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, as well as from non-governmental organizations maintaining official partnerships with the Organization and active in relevant fields covered by a Prize.

6.2 Nominations shall be submitted to the Director-General by the governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, and by non-governmental organizations maintaining official partnerships with UNESCO. 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 the Prize

7.1 The Prize shall be awarded by the Director-General at an official ceremony held for that purpose in UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France or other location, on the occasion of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on 3 December. UNESCO shall present to the Prize-winner/s a check for the amount of the Prize as well as diploma. UNESCO shall officially announce the name/s of the prize-winner/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 three persons.

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 a 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 Six months prior to the agreed end of the term of the Prize, the Director-General of UNESCO together with the donor will undertake a review of all aspects of the Prize and decide about its continuation or termination. The Director-General will inform the Executive Board of UNESCO about the results of this review.

8.2 In case of termination of a Prize, the use of any unspent balance of funds shall be determined in consultation with the donor, in accordance with the financial regulations for the special account for the Prize.

Article 9 – Appeals

No appeals shall be allowed against the decision of UNESCO 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.



UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

Application Guidelines for 2016/2017

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Objectives of the Prize

The purpose of the **UNESCO / Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities** (hereafter the Prize) is to recognize the outstanding contributions of individuals and organizations in promoting the inclusion and enhancing the lives of persons with disabilities through the application of digital solutions, resources and technologies.

In line with UNESCO's strategic objectives and especially the Major Programme Communication and Information, this includes translating human rights and fundamental freedoms into action, with a particular emphasis on removing barriers to enable greater access to information and knowledge, as well as learning and participation in society through the effective application of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs).

Applicants are encouraged to ensure that their submissions are in compliance with the Statutes of the Prize and these Application Guidelines.

The Prize builds on **three thematic axes** of importance in UNESCO's work with persons with disabilities:

- formulating policy, advocacy, co-operation and partnerships;
- creating and developing digital solutions, enabling environments and processes, including tools and resources;
- building and strengthening capacities of people to create, adapt and use digital solutions in a cost efficient and sustainable manner.

Applicants are encouraged to keep in mind these themes when preparing their applications.

The Prize

The Prize will be offered biennially in 2016/2017, 2018/2019 and 2020/2021. The Prize will be awarded in each biennial edition and will be divided equally to:

- An **Individual Person**; and
- An **Organization**.

These awards are for *individuals* and *organizations* (as defined in Section "Conceptual context of the Prize" below) and are not for projects or programmes. Successful individuals and organizations will usually have undertaken a series of relevant projects and programmes, developed appropriate tools or resources, and enhanced co-operation and partnerships that will contribute to their achievements, but it is the overall personal or organizational contribution that will be assessed.

The total amount available for the Prize biennially is **US \$40,000**, which will be distributed equally between the individual and the organizational winner.

UNESCO will publicize the Prize winners, and will seek to work with them to enhance and promote their continued activities in the field of the digital empowerment of persons with disabilities.

Prize winners (Laureates) will be selected by the Director-General of UNESCO on the basis of the assessments and recommendations made by a Jury, the process for which is summarized in Section “Jury Assessment Process/Organization” below.

All processes relating to the administration of the Prize will adhere to UNESCO's Statutes for the Prize available at <http://en.unesco.org/prizes/digital-empowerment>.

Conceptual context of the Prize

Definitions of digital empowerment, disabilities, digital solutions, resources and technologies, and organizations are complex, and applicants are encouraged to justify their own understandings of these concepts in their application forms should they so wish.

For the purposes of the Prize, the following conceptual context should be considered when preparing an application:

- **Digital Empowerment.** The Prize defines digital empowerment as the processes whereby people are able to have more power and control over their lives through the use of digital solutions, resources and technologies, particularly in terms of greater inclusion, participation and contribution to societal development as well as enhanced life experiences. UNESCO places particular emphasis on the ways through which information and knowledge can contribute to the empowerment of persons with disabilities notably by:
 - formulating policy, advocacy, co-operation and partnerships;
 - creating and developing digital solutions, enabling environments and processes, including tools and resources;
 - building and strengthening capacities of people to create, adapt and use digital solutions in a cost efficient and sustainable manner.
- **Persons with Disabilities.** The Prize uses a definition of persons with disabilities in alignment with the [UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#) as “*Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others*”. Applicants are encouraged to clarify their own understandings and contexts of disability in their applications should they consider that this would be helpful.
- **Digital solutions, resources and technologies.** The Prize recognizes the converged nature of many ICTs and adopts a broad definition of the term digital solutions as a combination of:
 - *Digital technologies: any digital informational or communication device or application, including but not restricted to mobile phones, computers, laptops, televisions, radios, satellite systems, networks, hardware, software and applications;*
 - *Digital resources: content and information that are accessible through digital technologies; and*
 - *Enabling environments and processes: standards, tools, physical, technical and online infrastructures, resources and locations.*

Applicants are encouraged to justify their choice of digital resources, resources and/or technologies should these not self-evidently lie within this definition. It can be noted that UNESCO encourages the development and use of digital solutions based on open standards, accessible and openly licensed content and resources, and Free and Open Source Software (FOSS).

- **Organizations.** The Prize adopts a broad definition of organizations for the purpose of eligibility, including *government departments*, *non-governmental organizations* (including charitable organizations, faith-based organizations, research and educational organizations, trade unions, professional associations and foundations) and *companies* (both for-profit and social enterprises). Applicants must specify their formal registration details, and applications from informal groupings of people will not be considered. An individual may, though, be nominated as a representative of a group of people.

Nominations that do not justify their choice of definitions in their applications, should they not clearly satisfy these definitions, will be excluded from consideration. Nominating Entities (see below Section “Application and nomination process. Submission of applications forms to Nominating Entity”) should take this into consideration in making their nominations.

Eligibility criteria

1. **Eligible applicants.** Eligible applicants are *individuals* (applying either individually, or representing a group of people) or *organizations* (an institution, non-governmental organization or other public or private entity).
2. **Conceptual context.** For the purposes of the Prize, the guidance in Section “Conceptual context of the Prize” above will apply, and applications that do not satisfy these directions will be excluded.
3. **Experience.** Individuals and organizations applying for the Prize must have been active in the field for a *minimum of five years*, and have proven results from their efforts and activities.
4. **Not eligible recipients.** Previous recipients of the UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for *Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities*, or the UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize to *Promote Quality Education for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities* are not eligible to apply. Anyone else who submitted an application to previous editions of these prizes can submit a new application.
5. **Not eligible recipients.** Members of staff of UNESCO as well as present and previous Jurors for this Prize may not apply.
6. **Number of applications.** Only *one application* may be submitted by any one individual, or by an organization, considered to include all of its parts. Should several entities within a single organization wish to be nominated, it is incumbent on the Head of that organization to select and authorize only one such application to be submitted on behalf of the organization. Should more than one application be received from an individual or from an organization, both will be excluded from consideration. Likewise, should both an individual and the organization which employs that individual apply, then both will be excluded.

7. **Respect of procedures.** Any nomination not submitted according to the procedures specified in Section “Application and nomination process” below and Statutes of the Prize will be excluded.
8. **Language.** All applications must be submitted in the *English or French* languages and on the application form specified. The preferred mode of submission is electronically, but if this is not possible then postal applications and nominations are also acceptable.

Application and nomination process

The Application process for the Prize is guided by the **principals of fairness, transparency and integrity**. The steps outlined below are intended to retain the integrity of the process whilst preserving a level of flexibility in the creation of an open and effective procedure.

The application process is composed of four steps:

1. Call for applicants
2. Completion of application forms
3. Submission of application forms to Nominating Entity
4. National endorsement and nomination

1. Call for applications

The Director-General of UNESCO will officially invite to submit applications to its Member and partners. The letter with a Call for Applications with relevant documents will be disseminated to the Governments of Member States, National Commissions of UNESCO, and Non-Governmental Organizations maintaining official partnerships with UNESCO and active in relevant fields covered by the Prize. The official call will also be disseminated through UNESCO's official communication channels such as its website, newsletters and other means. A special website dedicated for the Prize will contain full information:
<http://en.unesco.org/prizes/digital-empowerment> .

Applications are particularly encouraged from persons with disabilities in all parts of the world.

2. Completion of application forms

Individual applications should be completed on the [individual](#) application form and **organizational applications** on the organizational form (<http://en.unesco.org/prizes/digital-empowerment/nomination-process>).

For **organizational applications**, or for individuals employed by an organization, the Head of the organization must select and agree in the appropriate place on the application form that only one such application is being submitted on behalf of the organization.

3. Submission of application forms to Nominating Entity

Completed application forms should be submitted electronically to a relevant *Nominating Entity* (Section “Application and Nomination Process. Submission of application forms to Nominating Entity”), which will then complete the relevant sections of the forms and submit them to <http://en.unesco.org/prizes/digital-empowerment/nomination-process> or by email: ict-pwd@unesco.org.

If it is not possible to submit applications electronically, they can be submitted to the relevant Nominating Entity by post, providing that in all instances the relevant deadlines are met. Potential applicants are encouraged to contact their respective Nominating Entity well in advance of the submission deadline, to discuss the appropriateness of their nomination and so that agencies can have sufficient time to make their selection and complete the forms.

Should Nominating Entities not have responded to such enquires from applicants two weeks prior to the submission deadline, applicants are invited to contact UNESCO directly (ict-pwd@unesco.org) at that point, so that UNESCO can then seek to engage the relevant Nominating Entity.

UNESCO will not consider any such requests received after the final submission deadline.

All applications should be submitted to **one of two types of Nominating Entity** before the deadline specified for final submission to UNESCO (Section “Timeline”):

- ***National Commissions for UNESCO***
A full list of contact details for National Commissions is available at http://www.unesco.org/ncp/index.php??lc=E&module=national_commissions&showall=1,
- ***Non-Governmental Organizations maintaining official partnerships with UNESCO*** (a full list and contacts is available at http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/unesco_ong_list_06_2016_english.xlsx)

4. National endorsement and nomination

All applications must be endorsed by the National Commissions for UNESCO or relevant Non-Governmental Organizations maintaining official partnerships with UNESCO (Nominating Entity), which will provide a written recommendation to UNESCO on the application form in support of the application. Self-endorsements cannot be considered.

Nominating Entities should complete the relevant sections of the application forms, outlining the reasons for their support of the applications.

Nominations should preferably be submitted digitally to UNESCO <http://en.unesco.org/prizes/digital-empowerment> by Nominating Entities prior to the deadline of **15 September 2016**. Any nominations received after this date for any reason will be excluded.

If it is impossible to submit nominations electronically, they may be submitted by post to the following address:

UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
Communication and Information Sector
UNESCO
7, place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris 07 SP
France

Inaccurate and false applications

Applications not submitted on the correct official form, incomplete applications, applications with inaccurate information, applications not submitted in English or French, or applications received after the deadline will be deemed to be ineligible and will not be considered.

If at any stage during the application process, any information contained within an application is found to be false or inaccurate, the application can be deemed invalid, and if the Prize has already been awarded it can be rescinded.

Selection criteria

Judgement of applications will be made upon an assessment of all aspects of the application relating to the digital empowerment of persons with disabilities. Applicants are therefore strongly recommended to ensure that they make maximum use of the space provided in each section. The application form specifically notes where items are intended merely for classification purposes and will not be used as part of the assessment process. Jurors will especially examine the extent to which individuals and organizations have shown evidence that they have delivered against twelve specific criteria:

1. **Formulating policy, advocacy, co-operation and partnerships:** the extent to which the applicant's work has used digital solutions, resources and technologies to empower persons with disabilities through the formulation of policy, advocacy, co-operation and partnership-based solutions.
2. **Creating and developing digital solutions, enabling environments and processes, including tools and resources:** the extent to which the applicant's work has included creation and development of digital solutions, resources and technologies to empower persons with disabilities.
3. **Building and strengthening the capacities of people to create, adapt and use digital solutions, resources and technologies:** the extent to which the applicant's work has used digital solutions to empower persons with disabilities through building and strengthening capacities of people to create, adapt and use digital solutions in a cost efficient and sustainable manner such as leadership programmes, the training of trainers, and enhancing the learning of persons with disabilities.
4. **Sustainability:** the extent to which the applicant has ensured the long term financial continuity and environmental sustainability of their interventions.

5. **Value for investment:** the extent to which the applicant's interventions have been affordable by persons with disabilities, minimizing the cost of the solutions, resources and technologies used, and representing efficiency in the ratio between outputs and inputs.
6. **Scale of impact:** the extent to which the work of the applicant has been effective at scale in different parts of the world; this is a measure of the breadth of the applicant's work.
7. **Intensity of impact:** the extent of take up of the applicant's interventions amongst the user groups for which they have been intended; this is a measure of the depth of the applicant's work.
8. **Accessibility:** the extent to which the interventions are relevant to, and have been applied, across a broad range of user groups and disabilities, are intelligible in languages understood by persons with disabilities, and use of digital solutions including those which are based on open standards, accessible and openly licensed content and resources, and Free and Open Source Software (FOSS).
9. **User-centric design and review:** the extent to which people with disabilities have been involved in the original design, development and subsequent review of the applicant's interventions.
10. **Monitoring and evaluation:** evidence that the applicant has used monitoring and evaluation effectively in enhancing the quality of their interventions and in sharing information about their successes and failures.
11. **Ease of use:** the extent to which the applicant's interventions are easy to use by the intended user groups.
12. **Innovation:** the extent to which the applicant has been innovative in the design or practice of their approaches, and has thereby transformed traditional approaches to the empowerment of persons with disabilities.

Jury assessment process

Membership of Jury

- The nominated applications will be reviewed by a Jury of five independent members, who will be appointed by the Director General of UNESCO for an initial two-year period, with the possibility of two renewals so that they can serve for a maximum of six years. Jurors will be selected based on being personalities with a recognized reputation in the field covered, while also taking into consideration the need for equitable geographical distribution, gender equality and the principle of non-payment of honoraria. The Jury will include persons with disabilities.
- The Jury will elect the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Jury. Members shall receive no remuneration for their work, but will receive allowances for travel and accommodation, where required. A quorum of three Jurors present will be required for Jury deliberations to proceed. The working languages for deliberations by the Jury shall be English and French.

- Representatives and alternatives of Members of UNESCO's Executive Board cannot be appointed as Jurors.
- Jurors who have a conflict of interest in some way with one or more of the applications, should declare this to the Chair and, if the conflict of interest is deemed to be serious, they should recuse themselves from further consideration of the relevant application(s), or be asked by the Chair to do so. Jurors involved in a substantial real or potential conflict of interest with the overall Prize process shall recuse themselves from any discussion thereof, or be asked by the Director-General to do so. The Director-General may replace members of the Jury should a sound reason be identified.

Review of Applications

- There will be a separate process of review for applications from individuals and from organizations.
- The UNESCO Secretariat will review all applications against the eligibility criteria (Section "Eligibility criteria"), and will exclude any that do not meet the requirements for the Prize.
- If necessary, the UNESCO Secretariat, drawing on expert advice, will undertake a pre-selection of the best applications for consideration by the Jury.
- Jurors will each read up to applications, and score the contents against each twelve criterion listed in Section "Selection criteria" above.

Selection of Prize Winners

- The overall average scores from each Juror for each applicant will then be ranked to produce a short-list for further consideration by the Jury in a face-to-face meeting to be held at UNESCO's Headquarters in Paris. In exceptional circumstances, if Jury members are not able to attend in person, they may attend by video-conference.
- Under normal circumstances, the Jury will consider at least the top ten ranked nominations for detailed discussion at this meeting. However, each member of the Jury may recommend that any of the nominations is included in this short-list.
- Based on these discussions, which will be held separately for the individual and for the organizational nominations, the Jury will propose winners for each Prize to the Director-General of UNESCO.

Award ceremony, recognition and visibility

UNESCO is committed, subject to available resources, to publicizing the award widely and providing further support to the Prize winners, because the purpose of the Prize is to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities through the use of digital technologies. Some of the activities that may be developed include the following:

- **Prize Lecture.** In accordance with the Statutes, the Prize-winners, 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.

- **Prize Alumni network.** UNESCO will create a network of Prize winners, both to invite them to participate in ongoing relevant UNESCO activities, and also to share the Prize winners' continuing achievements more widely. UNESCO will seek to involve Prize winners in future discussions of policies and practices, and to draw on their work in exemplifying good practices in the use of ICTs to empower people with disabilities.
- **Additional collaboration.** UNESCO and Prize winners will work together to identify additional means through which the Prize process can contribute to more effective use of ICTs to empower persons with disabilities.

Acceptance of rules, data protection and dissemination

- **Acceptance of rules.** Applying for the Prize implies full acceptance of, and respect for, the Statutes and Application Guidelines associated with the Prize. Interpretation of these Statutes and Guidelines remains exclusively within the competence of UNESCO. No appeals shall be allowed against the decision of UNESCO with regard to the award of the Prize.
- **Data protection.** Applicants agree that their personal details and information contained within their applications may be included within a UNESCO database, and UNESCO will be the exclusive custodian of these details for the purposes of the Prize process. UNESCO will not make available any personal details to third parties for any purpose.
- **Dissemination: communication and media.** UNESCO may use the information contained within the applications for purposes of communication and information sharing about the Prize and with respect to UNESCO's work in empowering persons with disabilities through the use of ICTs. Any such communication that identifies specific information about individuals or organizations will be agreed with the relevant person or organization beforehand, but it is expected that any information contained within the original applications may be used for such purposes.

Timeline for the 2016/17 edition of the Prize

The timeline for the 2016/2017 edition of the Prize is:

- **July 2016** –
Announcement of call for applications
- **15 September 2016** –
Last date for submission of applications to Nominating Entities
- **15 September 2016** –
Last date for Nominating Entities to submit nominations to UNESCO
- **September to November 2016** –
Jury assessment
- **November 2016** –
Public announcement of Prize winners
- **3 December 2016** –
Award Ceremony
- **January to December 2017** –
Dissemination

Weblinks

UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

<http://en.unesco.org/prizes/digital-empowerment>

National Commissions for UNESCO

http://www.unesco.org/ncp/index.php??lc=E&module=national_commissions&showall=1

Non-Governmental Organizations maintaining official partnerships with UNESCO

http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/unesco_ong_list_06_2016_english.xlsx

UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

Individual Application Form 2016/2017

Instructions: Applicants are advised to read the Statutes and Application Guidelines available on [UNESCO website](#) in detail before beginning to complete this [form](#). Only applications submitted on this form will be considered. All sections highlighted in **grey** must be completed, using drop-down menus or free text as appropriate.

Fields will expand up to the character limit, which includes spaces. Should any problems be encountered in completing the form, please contact ict-pwd@unesco.org. All applications should be submitted to the relevant Nominating Entity by their required deadline which will be on or before **15 September 2016**.

Individual applicants are reminded of the need to gain agreement of the Head of their Organization on this form prior to submission to the Nominating Entity.

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1. Details of the Applicant

Name:

Family Name/Surname of person applying:

Given Name(s)/First Name(s) of person applying:

Organization (To be completed if applicant is employed by an organization):

Name of Organization:

Size of Organization (Complete drop-down menu):

- 1-10 employees/members
- 11-50 employees/members
- 51-100 employees/members
- 101-1000 employees/members
- 1001 – or more employees/members

Contact Details:

Postal Address line 1

Postal Address line 2

Postal Address Town/City

Post Code

Country

E-mail

Phone (to include international code)

Individual status

Please check relevant box to indicate whether individual is being nominated in a personal capacity or as a representative of a group:

- Being nominated as an individual
- Being nominated as the representative of a group

Statement of truth

I declare that everything contained within this application is true, and that I am only submitting one application (please check box to confirm):

Duration:

Year in which the applicant's activities in support of the empowerment of persons with disabilities commenced (insert year in box)

Linguistic background:

Please check the box below and complete the relevant details if appropriate.

My first language is neither English or French

Please specify first language if not English or French

Geographical region:

Geographical region of contribution (this item is only used for purposes of classifying the applications):

Western European and North American States

Eastern European States

Latin-American and Caribbean States

Asian and Pacific States

African States

Arab States

Type(s) of disability:

Type(s) of disability with which applicant has mainly been concerned (based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities' categories; please check all appropriate box(s); this item is only used for purposes of classifying the applications):

Hearing

Mental/Intellectual/Learning

Physical/Mobility

Visual

Other (specify below)

Multiple

If "Other" please specify here in < 100 characters:

2. Overview of Applicant's Outstanding Contribution

This section enables Applicants to provide a brief overview of their main activities relating to the digital empowerment of persons with disabilities. Each section of the form must be completed within the number of characters specified:

Career chronology with respect to work on digital empowerment of persons with disabilities (1000 characters)

Major achievements that have empowered persons with disabilities (1000 characters)

Summary of other initiatives taken to empower persons with disabilities (1000 characters)

Most relevant websites containing information about applicant's contributions (maximum two):

Imagery of contributions

Please insert up to three pictures of your work on digitally empowering persons with disabilities (note that *only images* are permitted in this section, and inclusion of any other material will invalidate the application):

Image 1.

Image 2.

Image 3.

3. Assessment Criteria

Please provide evidence for how your work has delivered on each of the following criteria (up to 1500 characters for each):

1. **Formulating policy, advocacy, co-operation and partnerships:** the extent to which you have used digital resources and ICTs to empower persons with disabilities through the formulation of policy, advocacy, co-operation and partnership-based solutions.
Evidence (1500 characters)

2. **Creating and developing digital solutions, including tools and resources:** the extent to which you have used digital resources and ICTs to empower persons with disabilities by creating and developing digital solutions, including tools, resources, services and platforms.
Evidence (1500 characters)

3. **Building and strengthening the capacities of people to make effective use of practical solutions and policies:** the extent to which you have used digital resources and ICTs to empower persons with disabilities through building and strengthening capacities of people to make effective use of practical solutions and policies, such as leadership programmes, the training of trainers, and enhancing the learning of persons with disabilities.
Evidence (1500 characters)

4. **Sustainability:** the extent to which you have ensured the long term financial continuity and environmental sustainability of your interventions.
Evidence (1500 characters)

5. **Value for investment:** the extent to which your interventions have been affordable by persons with disabilities, minimizing the cost of the resources used and representing efficiency in the ratio between outputs and inputs.
Evidence (1500 characters)

6. **Scale of impact:** the extent to which your work has been effective at scale in different parts of the world; this is a measure of the breadth of your work.
Evidence (1500 characters)

7. **Intensity of impact:** the extent of take up of your interventions amongst the user groups for which they have been intended; this is a measure of the depth of your work.
Evidence (1500 characters)

8. **Accessibility:** the extent to which the interventions are relevant to, and have been applied, across a broad range of user groups and disabilities, are intelligible in languages understood by persons with disabilities, and use or support Open principles.
Evidence (1500 characters)

9. ***User-centric design and review***: the extent to which people with disabilities have been involved in the original design, development and subsequent review of your interventions.
Evidence (1500 characters)

10. ***Monitoring and evaluation***: evidence that you have used monitoring and evaluation effectively in enhancing the quality of your interventions and in sharing information about their successes and failures.
Evidence (1500 characters)

11. ***Ease of use***: the extent to which your interventions are easy to use by the intended user groups.
Evidence (1500 characters)

12. ***Innovation***: the extent to which you have been innovative in the design or practice of your approaches, and have thereby transformed traditional approaches to the empowerment of persons with disabilities.
Evidence (1500 characters)

4. Authorization by Head of Organization

I certify that this is the only application (either individual or organizational) being submitted by my organization. Please check this box to agree .

First Name:

Family Name/Surname

Organization name:

Registration number:

Contact Details:

Postal Address line 1

Postal Address line 2

Postal Address Town/City

Post Code

Country

E-mail

Phone (to include international code)

Note that Heads of Organizations may be contacted for verification by UNESCO, and any invalid declaration will lead to application being invalidated.

***PLEASE NOW SAVE THIS FILE IN THE FORMAT
<surname-firstname.doc> AND SUBMIT IT TO YOUR NOMINATING ENTITY***

5. Support from Nominating Entity

In making this nomination, the nominating Government or Non-Governmental Organization, confirms that it has checked the eligibility of the applicant and the veracity of the contents of Sections 1 to 4 to the best of its ability.

Title

Title of Nominating Entity

Type of Nominating Entity (please check appropriate box):

The Governments of Member States of UNESCO, in consultation with their UNESCO National Commissions

Non-governmental organizations maintaining official partnerships with UNESCO

Details of person making the nomination

First Name:

Family Name/Surname

Role in Nominating Entity:

Contact Details:

Postal Address line 1

Postal Address line 2

Postal Address Town/City

Post Code

Country

E-mail

Phone (to include international code)

Declaration

I declare that the applicant is eligible according to the Prize guidelines, and that the contents of the application are accurate to the best of our knowledge (please check box to agree):

Nomination

Please complete the following three sections, each in less than 1500 characters, explaining the reasons why you are nominating this application. If possible, please draw on information and evidence additional to that included in Sections 1 to 3 of this form that have been completed by the applicant.

Applicant's background

A description of the candidate's background and achievements:

Reasons for nomination (1500 characters)

Results of Applicant's work

A summary of the work or the results of the work, publications and other supporting documents of major importance, submitted for consideration:

Reasons for nomination (1500 characters)

Delivery against the Prize objective

A statement of the candidate's contribution to the Prize's objective, which is to recognize the outstanding contributions of individuals and organizations in promoting the inclusion and enhanced lives of persons with disabilities through the use of digital technologies and resources. This includes translating human rights and fundamental freedoms into action, with a particular emphasis on removing barriers to enable greater access to information and knowledge, as well as learning and participation in society through the effective application of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs).

Reasons for nomination (1500 characters)

For official use only Application number
to be provided by UNESCO.

UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

Organization Application Form 2016/17

Instructions: Applicants are advised to read the Statutes and Application Guidelines [UNESCO website](#) in detail before beginning to complete this [form](#). Only applications submitted on this form will be considered. All sections highlighted in grey must be completed, using drop-down menus or free text as appropriate.

Fields will expand up to the character limit, which includes spaces. Should any problems be encountered in completing the form, please contact ict-pwd@unesco.org All applications should be submitted to the relevant Nominating Entity by their required deadline which will be on or before **15 September 2016**.

Organizational applicants are reminded of the need to gain agreement of the Head of their Organization on this form prior to submission to the Nominating Entity.

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1. Details of the Applicant

Organization:

Name of Organization:

Registration number of Organization (if available):

Size of Organization (Complete drop-down menu; this item is only used for purposes of classifying the applications): Size of organization

- 1-10 employees/members
- 11-50 employees/members
- 51-100 employees/members
- 101-1000 employees/members
- 1001 – or more employees/members

Type of Organization (this item is only used for purposes of classifying the applications): Complete drop-down menu

- Academic/Research Organization
- Charitable Organization
- Cooperative Organization
- Faith-based Organization
- For-profit company
- For-profit public company
- Foundation
- Government Department
- Professional Association
- Social Enterprise
- Trade Union
- Voluntary Organization

If "Other" is used in drop-down menu, please specify: Insert type of organisation

Name of person submitting the application on behalf of the Organization:

Family Name/Surname of person submitting the application on behalf of the Organization:

Given Name(s)/First Name(s) of person submitting the application on behalf of the Organization:

Contact Details:

Postal Address line 1

Postal Address line 2

Postal Address Town/City

Post Code

Country

E-mail

Phone (to include international code)

Duration:

Year in which the Organization's activities in support of the empowerment of persons with disabilities commenced (insert year in box)

Linguistic background

Please check the box below and complete the relevant details if appropriate.

My first language is neither English or French

Please specify first language if not English or French

Geographical region:

Geographical region of contribution (this item is only used for purposes of classifying the applications): Region

Western European and North American States

Eastern European States

Latin-American and Caribbean States

Asian and Pacific States

African States

Arab States

Type(s) of disability:

Type(s) of disability with which applicant has mainly been concerned (based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities' categories; this item is only used for purposes of classifying the applications):

Type of disability

Hearing

Mental/Intellectual/Learning

Physical/Mobility

Visual

Other (specify below)

Multiple

If "Other" please specify here: In < 100 characters

2. Overview of Applicant's Outstanding Contribution

This section enables applicants to provide a brief overview of their Organization's main activities relating to the digital empowerment of persons with disabilities.

Each section of the form must be completed within the number of characters specified:

Organizational chronology with respect to work on digital empowerment of persons with disabilities

Outline of career chronology (1000 characters)

Major achievements of the Organization that have empowered persons with disabilities

Major achievements (1000 characters)

Summary of other initiatives taken by the Organization to empower persons with disabilities

Summary of other initiatives (1000 characters)

Most relevant websites containing information about applicant's contributions

(maximum two):

URL 1

URL 2

Imagery of contributions

Please insert up to three pictures of your work on digitally empowering persons with disabilities (note that *only images* are permitted in this section, and inclusion of any other material will invalidate the application):

Image 1.

Image 2.

Image 3.

3. Assessment criteria

Please provide evidence for how the Organization's work has delivered on each of the following criteria (up to 1500 characters for each):

1. **Formulating policy, advocacy, co-operation and partnerships:** the extent to which the Organization has used digital resources and ICTs to empower persons with disabilities through the formulation of policy, advocacy, co-operation and partnership-based solutions.
Evidence (1500 characters)

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Evidence (1500 characters)

4. **Sustainability:** the extent to which the Organization has ensured the long term financial continuity and environmental sustainability of your interventions.
Evidence (1500 characters)

5. **Value for investment:** the extent to which the Organization's interventions have been affordable by persons with disabilities, minimizing the cost of the resources used and representing efficiency in the ratio between outputs and inputs.
Evidence (1500 characters)

6. **Scale of impact:** the extent to which the Organization's work has been effective at scale in different parts of the world; this is a measure of the breadth of your work.
Evidence (1500 characters)

7. **Intensity of impact:** the extent of take up of the Organization's interventions amongst the user groups for which they have been intended; this is a measure of the depth of your work.
Evidence (1500 characters)

8. **Accessibility:** the extent to which the interventions are relevant to, and have been applied, across a broad range of user groups and disabilities, are intelligible in languages understood by persons with disabilities, and use or support Open principles.

Evidence (1500 characters)

9. ***User-centric design and review:*** the extent to which people with disabilities have been involved in the original design, development and subsequent review of the Organization's interventions.
Evidence (1500 characters)

10. ***Monitoring and evaluation:*** evidence that the Organization has used monitoring and evaluation effectively in enhancing the quality of your interventions and in sharing information about their successes and failures.
Evidence (1500 characters)

11. ***Ease of use:*** the extent to which the Organization's interventions are easy to use by the intended user groups.
Evidence (1500 characters)

12. ***Innovation:*** the extent to which the Organization has been innovative in the design or practice of your approaches, and have thereby transformed traditional approaches to the empowerment of persons with disabilities.
Evidence (1500 characters)

4. Authorisation by Head of Organization

I declare that everything contained within this application is true (please check box to confirm):

I certify that this is the only application (either individual or Organizational) being submitted by my Organization. Please check this box to agree .

First Name:

Family Name/Surname

Organization name:

Registration number:

Contact Details:

Postal Address line 1

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Note that Heads of Organizations may be contacted for verification by UNESCO, and any invalid declaration will lead to application being invalidated.

**PLEASE NOW SAVE THIS FILE IN THE FORMAT
<Organizationname.doc> AND SUBMIT IT TO YOUR NOMINATING ENTITY**

5. Support from Nominating Entity

In making this nomination, the nominating Government or Non-Governmental Organization, confirms that it has checked the eligibility of the applicant and the veracity of the contents of Sections 1 to 4 to the best of its ability.

Title

Title of Nominating Entity

Type of Nominating Entity (please check appropriate box):

- The governments of Member States of UNESCO, in consultation with their UNESCO National Commissions
- Non-governmental Organizations maintaining official partnerships with UNESCO

Details of person making the nomination

First Name:

Family Name/Surname

Role in Nominating Entity:

Contact Details:

Postal Address line 1

Postal Address line 2

Postal Address Town/City

Post Code

Country

E-mail

Phone (to include international code)

Declaration

I declare that the applicant is eligible according to the Prize guidelines, and that the contents of the application are accurate to the best of our knowledge (please check box to agree):

Nomination

Please complete the following three sections, each in less than 1500 characters, explaining the reasons why you are nominating this application. If possible, please draw on information and evidence additional to that included in Sections 1 to 3 of this form that have been completed by the Organization.

Organization's background

A description of the Organization's background and achievements:

Reasons for nomination (1500 characters)

Results of Organization's work

A summary of the work or the results of the work, publications and other supporting documents of major importance, submitted for consideration:

Reasons for nomination (1500 characters)

Delivery against the Prize objective

A statement of the candidate's contribution to the Prize's objective, which is to recognize the outstanding contributions of individuals and organizations in promoting the inclusion and enhanced lives of persons with disabilities through the use of digital technologies and resources. This includes translating human rights and fundamental freedoms into action, with a particular emphasis on removing barriers to enable greater access to information and knowledge, as well as learning and participation in society through the effective application of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs).

Reasons for nomination (1500 characters)

For official use only Application number to be provided by UNESCO
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