

Save the date : 3 December 2018



UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for

Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities



The Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information Sector, UNESCO

Dear Sir/Madam,

UNESCO is committed to promoting the inclusion and empowerment of persons with disabilities in education, the sciences, culture and communication and information, within the objective to ensure that women and men with disabilities are integrated fully into every aspect of social, political and economic life. The access to information and knowledge using Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) is essential for taking forward human rights and fundamental freedoms. ICTs have not only the potential for making significant improvements in the lives of these persons, but they are strategic enablers allowing persons with disabilities to enhance their social, political and economic integration in communities and society. ICTs, as recognized in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, have the great potential to “accelerate human progress, bridge the digital divide and develop knowledge societies”.

On behalf of the Director-General, I am pleased, to invite you to commemorate the International Day of Persons with Disabilities at UNESCO’s Headquarters on 3 December 2018 and attend the award ceremony of the UNESCO/Emir Jaber Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. The event will take place from 2.45 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. followed by a cultural programme from 6.00 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.in Room I, UNESCO.

The UNESCO/Emir Jaber Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities aims 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. The event will also include a high-level discussion panel and film screening. With this event, UNESCO aims to raise the awareness of the international community, Governments, UN agencies, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector on the significance and complexity of disability, and the benefits of technological and scientific progress for inclusion of persons with disabilities in society, in order to encourage all stakeholders to take concrete measures and action in this regard.

I should like to encourage you and representatives of your country to join our efforts, and to attend this important event. I should appreciate it very much, therefore, if you would transmit this information to your relevant authorities, national, partners and organizations.

For more information on the event and Prize, please consult the dedicated website:

<https://en.unesco.org/prizes/digital-empowerment/3-december-2018-event>

Please note that all participants of the event are requested to register and provide information about any assistance required the following link: <https://en.unesco.org/feedback/3-december-2018>.

Hoping to welcome you to this important event, I remain,

Moez Chakchouk

A handwritten signature in blue ink, corresponding to the name Moez Chakchouk.