

STATUTES OF THE UNESCO-JAPAN PRIZE ON EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

(195 EX/Decision 11 Part II, October 2014)

Article 1 – Purpose

The purpose of the UNESCO-Japan Prize on Education for Sustainable Development is to reward the outstanding efforts of individuals, institutions, organizations or other entities engaged in activities on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), within the framework of the Global Action Programme on ESD (GAP) which was endorsed as a follow-up to the United Nations Decade of ESD by the 37th session of the General Conference (37 C/Resolution 12). The Prize rewards in particular activities that are innovative or have a high impact. The objective of the Prize is in conformity with UNESCO's policies, namely the Strategic Objective 2 of UNESCO's Medium-term Strategy 2014-2021 (37C/4) "empowering learners to be creative and responsible global citizens" and the programme of the Organization in the field of ESD.

Article 2 – Designation, amount and periodicity of the Prize

2.1 The Prize shall be entitled "UNESCO-Japan Prize on Education for Sustainable Development".

2.2 The Prize shall be funded by the Government of Japan and shall consist of a total payment of US \$2,000,000 for its first five-year period (2015-2019), which shall cover both the monetary value of the Prize and the costs of administering the Prize. Any interest that may accrue will be added to the overall contribution.

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 \$250,000 per year, shall be fully covered by the Government of Japan. 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 annually, initially for five years, starting from its 2015 edition. The Prize shall consist of three awards of US \$50,000 for each of the three recipients, each of which is considered to merit a Prize.

Article 3 – Qualifications of candidates

Candidates shall have made significant contributions to ESD, focusing on one or more of the five Priority Action Areas of the Global Action Programme on ESD: (1) policy support, (2) whole-institution approaches, (3) educators, (4) youth and (5) local communities. Prizes may be conferred upon individuals, institutions, non-governmental organizations or other entities engaged in ESD.

Article 4 – Designation/Selection of the prize winners

The three prize winners shall be selected by the Director-General of UNESCO on the basis of the assessments and recommendations made to him/her by a jury.

Article 5 – Jury

5.1 The Jury shall consist of a number of five independent members, being personalities with a recognized reputation in the field of ESD, 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 an initial two year period, with the possibility of renewal for the remainder of the five-year period of the Prize. Representatives and alternates of Members 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 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 of 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 year.

5.5 The Jury shall send an assessment of nominations and accompanying recommendations to the Director-General of UNESCO no later than 31 July of the year of the award of the Prize.

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 30 April, 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 the 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 of the Prize

7.1 The Prize shall be awarded by the Director-General at an official ceremony held for that purpose on a date determined by the Director-General. UNESCO shall present to the prize winners a check for the amount of the Prize. UNESCO shall officially announce the names of the prize winners.

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 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.

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/she has received the Prize, then the Prize may be presented posthumously.

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 (five years), 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 the Prize, the use of any unspent balance of funds shall be determined by the Director-General, in accordance with the Financial Regulations of 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 the 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.