

ANNEX I

STATUTES OF THE UNESCO-AL FOZAN INTERNATIONAL PRIZE FOR THE PROMOTION OF YOUNG SCIENTISTS IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM)

Article 1 – Purpose of the Prize

- 1.1 The purpose of the UNESCO-AL Fozan International Prize for the promotion of young scientists in STEM is to promote young researchers in the field of STEM.
- 1.2 The UNESCO-AL Fozan International Prize for the promotion of young scientists in STEM, financially supported by the Al Fozan Foundation, aims to strengthen STEM research, STEM education and international cooperation to confront the global challenges addressed by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Such a Prize will give recognition to the achievements of young people that are conducive to socio-economic transformation and development on a global scale while also increasing the interest of young people, particularly girls and women, in science so as to promote gender equality, scientific literacy and the choice of a scientific career.
- 1.3 The Prize recognizes and rewards achievements that are conducive to capacity building, the development of scientific careers and socio-economic development at the national, regional, and global levels.
- 1.4 The Prize will also serve as a lever for strengthening global capabilities in STEM, as well as giving visibility to STEM role models that are capable of attracting youth towards STEM studies and careers.

Article 2 – Designation, periodicity, geographical distribution and amount of the Prize

- 2.1 The Prize shall be entitled “UNESCO-AL Fozan International Prize for the promotion of young scientists in STEM”.
- 2.2 The Prize shall be funded by the Al Fozan Foundation, and shall consist of a recurrent payment of USD \$1.65 million for the total duration of a cycle of six-years period from 2022 to 2027 (\$550,000 per biennium), which shall cover both the monetary value of the Prize and the costs of administering the Prize. A diploma and a medal will be given to each of the recipients. Any interest that may accrue shall 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 (see financial regulations in Annex II).
- 2.4 The full staff support and operating/management costs of the Prize, including all costs related to the administration and public information activities, and the overhead costs to be applied and charged against the funds in the special account, estimated at USD \$ 900,000 for three biennia (\$300,000 per biennium) shall be fully covered by the Al Fozan Foundation. The related special account is to be established under the financial regulations for the Prize.
- 2.5 The Prize shall be awarded every two years to five individual prize-winners from the five UNESCO geographical regions at each edition, on an initial basis for three biennia (three editions of the Prize in total).
- 2.6 The Secretariat of the Prize will be located in the Natural Sciences Sector of UNESCO, the date and place of venue of the prize-giving ceremony, which will be held in alternation on UNESCO’s premises at Headquarters (whenever possible during the Executive Board or General Conference), in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia or any other venue as decided by

UNESCO and the donor. Outside UNESCO Headquarters, the award-giving ceremony shall be covered through in-kind contributions from the Al Fozan Foundation.

Article 3 – Conditions/Qualifications of candidates

- 3.1 Prizes may be awarded to five individuals only who have promoted STEM advancement in education, research, or international cooperation for societal development. Candidates must be less than 40 years old at the time of applying for the Prize and, must be actively involved in STEM at the time of application to the Prize.
- 3.2 The candidates shall have earned recognition for their significant achievement/contribution to:
 - (i) Research in the STEM including the emerging technologies or ;
 - (ii) STEM education, dissemination of research findings, as well as creativity and innovation or;
 - (iii) International or regional cooperation in STEM.

Article 4 – Designation/Selection of Prize-winners

The prize-winners shall be selected by the Director-General of UNESCO based on the assessments and recommendations made to him/her by an international Jury. Particular attention would be given to women candidates.

Article 5 – Jury of the Prize

- 5.1 The Jury shall be composed of five independent eminent members being personalities with a recognized reputation in the field of STEM, while also taking into consideration the need for diverse representation of scientific fields, 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 for a maximum period of six years. Representatives and alternatives 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 shall replace members of the jury for reason.
- 5.2 The Jury shall elect its own chair and deputy chair. Members of the Jury 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.
- 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 the vote concerning a nominated candidate from his or her country.
- 5.4 The Jury shall meet once every two years for deliberation on the candidates.
- 5.5 The Jury shall send an assessment on the nominations and accompanying recommendations to the Director-General of UNESCO at the latest two months before the award ceremony.

Article 6 – Nomination of candidates

- 6.1 When UNESCO has received the funding of the Prize as well as the staff support and operating/management costs 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 every two years 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 and by UNESCO Chairs, category 2 centres, international scientific unions and universities.

- 6.2 Nominations shall be submitted to the Director-General by the governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, by non-governmental organizations maintaining official partnerships with UNESCO and active in relevant fields covered by the Prize, by UNESCO Chairs, category 2 centres, international scientific unions and universities. 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, publications and other supporting documents of major importance, submitted for consideration;
 - (c) a description 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 or his/her representative and the Donor or his/her representative at an official ceremony held for that purpose in alternation at UNESCO's premises at Headquarters and in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia or any other place that might be considered appropriate. For the first edition, the award ceremony shall be held at UNESCO's headquarters in Paris. UNESCO shall present to the prize-winners a financial award of USD 50,000 each, representing a total monetary prize value of USD 250,000, as well as a diploma and a medal. UNESCO shall officially announce the names of the prize-winners and highlight their achievements.
- 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 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, the Director-General of UNESCO together with the donor will undertake a review of all aspects of the Prize and determine 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, any unspent balance shall be returned to the donor unless otherwise agreed, in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Prize.

Article 9 – Appeals

No appeals shall be allowed against the decision of UNESCO about 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.