



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

- 3 JUN 2016

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Subject: **Call for nominations – UNESCO International Literacy Prizes 2016**

Sir/Madam,

I have the honour hereby to launch the call to nominate candidates for the 2016 edition of the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes, on the theme “**Innovation in Literacy**”. Initially established in 1967, these Prizes are currently composed of the two UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prizes, sponsored by the Republic of Korea, and the three UNESCO Confucius Prizes for Literacy, sponsored by the People’s Republic of China. They are awarded each year to individuals, governments and non-governmental organizations in recognition of their distinguished contribution to the promotion of literacy, and their meritorious efforts in this regard.

The prizewinners shall be designated by UNESCO on the basis of the recommendations of an International Jury, which consists of five independent, eminent professionals. Each prizewinner will receive a monetary award, a silver medal and a diploma, all of which will be presented at an international ceremony that will take place on Thursday, 8 September 2016, in commemoration of International Literacy Day.

It is strongly recommended that nomination files take into consideration this year’s theme, as well as the specific thematic focus of each Prize, which is “Literacy in Multilingual Contexts” for the UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize, and “Adults in Rural Areas and Out-of-School Youth, especially Women and Girls” for the UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy. The *2016 UNESCO International Literacy Prizes Guide* sets forth the rules and procedures to be followed for the submission of entries. A copy of it is enclosed herewith for your perusal.

I am pleased to invite your Government to submit nominations for this year’s edition of the Prizes. In accordance with the Prizes Statutes, each Member State can propose up to three nominations for the UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy, and up to two nominations for the UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize. To prepare a nominated proposal, your Government may wish to consult your respective National Commission for UNESCO. The deadline for submission of all nomination files is Monday 4 July 2016.

We would appreciate if you could inform any individuals and organizations who may be interested in submitting applications, asking them to complete the enclosed submission form (online version: <http://en.unesco.org/themes/literacy/prizes>) in English or French. The applications that you would subsequently receive from them and nominate can then be transmitted, preferably electronically, to the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes Secretariat located in the Section of Youth, Literacy and Skills Development of the Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems within the Education Sector. The contact details for the Secretariat can be found hereunder. Publications, videos or other supporting materials of major importance may be submitted by post, also to the Prize Secretariat.

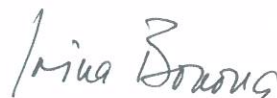
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Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Irina Bokova  
Director-General

Enclosures:

- 2016 UNESCO International Literacy Prize Guide for applications
- UNESCO International Literacy Prizes submission form

cc: National Commissions for UNESCO  
Permanent Delegations to UNESCO  
Field Offices of UNESCO  
UNESCO Institutes for Education