

**Indian National Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resources Development
Department of Higher Education**

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UNESCO Headquarters, Paris has invited nominations for the **UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education**. Relevant details are on the next page.

Nominations should be forwarded to the Indian National Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO (INCCU) latest by **1st April, 2016** (and should not be sent directly to UNESCO) at the following address for further consideration and onward transmission to UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France.

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United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

The Minister of Human Resource Development,
Communications & Information Technology
New Delhi
(India)

24 FEB 2016

Ref.: CL/4150

Subject: **Call for nominations for the UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education**

Sir/Madam,

I have the honour to invite your Government to submit nominations for the first edition of the UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education, funded by the Government of the People's Republic of China.

The aim of the Prize is to reward the activities of individuals, groups, organizations or centres that promote girls' and women's education, in keeping with UNESCO's policies and aims in the field of girls' and women's education. Nominations shall be proposed by the governments of Member States and non-governmental organizations in official partnership with UNESCO. Please refer to the enclosed Statutes of the Prize, adopted by UNESCO's Executive Board in 2015 (Annex I).

The Prize consists of a diploma and a sum of US \$50,000 each for two prize winners. Candidates must have distinguished themselves through outstanding activities that have contributed to promoting education for girls and women. The enclosed submission form and application guide provide further information regarding the Prize (Annex II). Nominations must be completed and sent to the following address, no later than on 20 April 2016.

UNESCO
Section of Education for Inclusion and Gender Equality
Division for Inclusion, Peace and Sustainable Development
Education Sector
7, place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris 07 SP
France

Telephone: +33 1 45 68 11 73
E-mail: gender.ed@unesco.org

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

Irina Bokova
Director-General

Encs: 2

cc: National Commissions for UNESCO
Permanent Delegations to UNESCO
Field offices of UNESCO
UNESCO institutes for education

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ANNEX I

STATUTES OF THE UNESCO PRIZE FOR GIRLS' AND WOMEN'S EDUCATION (197 EX/47, 14 October 2015)

Article 1 – Purpose

1.1 The purpose of the “UNESCO Prize for girls’ and women’s education” is to reward the outstanding efforts of individuals, institutions, organizations or other entities engaged in activities promoting girls’ and women’s Education. The Prize would contribute to two Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all” (Goal 4) and “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls” (Goal 5). The Prize would reward in particular activities that are innovative and/or have far-reaching sustainable impact.

1.2 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 Education. The proposed Prize is considered to be of high relevance to the programme of UNESCO and would directly contribute to three Strategic Objectives related to Major Programme I of UNESCO’s Medium-term Strategy 2014-2021 (37 C/4) and to those of the second “UNESCO Priority Gender Equality Action Plan 2014-2021” (GEAP II).

Article 2 – Designation, amount and periodicity of the Prize

2.1 The Prize shall be entitled “UNESCO Prize for girls’ and women’s education”.

2.2 The Prize shall be funded by the Government of the People’s Republic of China and shall consist of US \$200,000 per year for its first five-year period (2016-2020), which shall cover both the monetary value of the Prize and the costs of administering the Prize. 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 cost will be borne by the People’s Republic of China. Additional operating/management cost of the Prize, including all costs related to the award ceremony and public information activities, estimated at \$100,000, shall also be fully covered by the People’s Republic of China. 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 2016 edition. The Prize amount may be equally divided between up to two winners.

Article 3 – Qualifications of candidates

3.1 Candidates shall have made outstanding innovation in and significant contributions to supporting and/or promoting girls’ and women’s education. Prizes may be conferred upon individuals, institutions, other entities or non-governmental organizations that have effectively promoted the advancement of girls’ and women’s education.

Article 4 – Designation/Selection of the prize winners

The 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 five independent members, being personalities with a recognized reputation in the field, while also taking into consideration the need for equitable geographical distribution, gender balance in the composition of the jury 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 ... [dates to be decided by the Director-General].

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 ... [dates to be decided by the Director-General] 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 at UNESCO Headquarters. 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 (awarded to relatives or institutions).

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.

ANNEX II



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

UNESCO PRIZE FOR GIRLS' AND WOMEN'S EDUCATION 2016 Nomination Form

Background

The UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education rewards outstanding efforts of individuals, institutions other entities or non-governmental organizations engaged in activities in girls' and women's education. The Prize was established by the Executive Board of UNESCO at its 197th session, and launched in 2016 with generous support by the government of the People's Republic of China with a monetary award of US \$50,000 for each of the two winners annually for an initial period of five years (2016-2020). The Prize would also contribute to two sustainable development goals (SDGs): "Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all" (Goal 4) and "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls" (Goal 5).

Nominations

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.

Each nomination shall be accompanied by a written recommendation, which shall include, in English or French, *inter alia*:

- description of the candidate's background and achievements;
- summary of the work or the results of the work, publications and other supporting documents of major importance, submitted for consideration;
- definition of the candidate's contribution to the Prize's objectives.

Eligible candidates

Candidates shall have made outstanding innovation in and significant contributions to supporting and/or promoting girls' and women's education. Prizes may be conferred upon individuals, institutions, other entities or non-governmental organizations that have effectively promoted the advancement of girls' and women's education.

Submission procedures

1. **Application form:** download the application form from UNESCO's girls and women education website (<https://en.unesco.org/themes/women-and-girls-education>), and complete the form either in English or in French;
2. **Supporting materials:** applicants are encouraged to include relevant supporting materials such as videos, publications, CD-ROMs, etc.;

3. **Written recommendation:** all applications must be accompanied by a written recommendation of a government entity of the Member State or a non-governmental organization in official partnership with UNESCO;
4. **Submission:** all applications must be submitted through National Commissions or non-governmental organizations in official partnership with UNESCO. National Commissions or non-governmental organizations in official partnership with UNESCO are requested to ensure that all applications received are complete before sending them to UNESCO via email at: gender.ed@unesco.org or by post to the following address:

Section of Education for Inclusion and Gender equality
Division for Inclusion, Peace and Sustainable Development
Education Sector
UNESCO
7, place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris 07 SP, France

Tel: +33 (0)1 45 68 11 73

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: 20 April 2016

<http://en.unesco.org/themes/women-and-girls-education>

1. Nomination submitted by (please tick one)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Member State [type in the name of the Member State]	
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-governmental organization (NGO) in official partnership with UNESCO [type in the name of the NGO]	
2. Information on the nominated organization/individual	
Name	
Type of organization/individual	Please tick one: <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> International Organization <input type="checkbox"/> Civil society organization <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Media <input type="checkbox"/> Academia/research institution <input type="checkbox"/> Education institution <input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Other [Please specify]
Postal Address	
Country	
Contact person	[Name, Title, Department]
Email address	
Telephone	
Website	
Description of the nominated organization/individual	[Please provide a summary description in about 150 words.]
3. Description of the project/programme of the nominee	
(a) Name of the project/programme	
(b) Abstract	
[Please explain the objective of the project/programme and its methodology in about 150 words.]	

(c) Contribution to the advancement of girls' and women's education

Please tick the area to which the project/programme mainly contributes (please tick only one):

- Supporting girls/adolescent girls to transition from primary education to lower-secondary education and to complete full basic education
- Supporting adolescent girls and young women to acquire literacy skills
- Supporting the creation of a gender-responsive and safe teaching-learning environment, free of school-related gender-based violence (SRGBV)
- Engaging female and male teachers to develop gender-responsive teaching attitudes and practices and be change agents
- Supporting adolescent girls and young women to acquire knowledge and skills for them to adequately transition from school to work and lead a fulfilling life

(d) Main target group(s)

Please tick one (or more) and specify:

- Governments (National/ Sub-national/ Local) [Please specify]
- Intergovernmental organizations [Please specify]
- Civil society organizations [Please specify]
- Business [Please specify]
- Media [Please specify]
- Academia/research institutions [Please specify]
- Education institutions [Please specify]
- Educators [Please specify]
- Parents/ Care givers [Please specify]
- Girls [Please specify]
- Women [Please specify]
- Other [Please specify]

(e) Geographical coverage

Please tick one:

- International [Please indicate the number of countries]
- Regional [Please indicate the regional area]
- National [Please indicate the name of the country]
- Local [Please indicate the name of the local community]

(f) Number of beneficiaries

[Please indicate the number of beneficiaries]

(g) Duration

The project/programme started in: [month/year]

The project/programme has a duration of: [years(months)]

(h) Funding

[Please explain the funding source(s) of the project/programme.]

(i) Resources

Annual cost of the project/programme:[USD]
Number of staff involved in the project/programme per year:

(j) Follow-up plan

[Please describe the follow-up plan of the project/programme, indicating information such as scaling-up strategy, target groups, duration and budget, in about 150 words.]

(k) Impact

[Please explain the impact that the project has had on advancement of education for girls and women, using concrete information such as feedback from participants, number of site visits to the project website or citations, in about 150 words.]

List of attached supporting materials (e.g. publications)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- ...

(*NB: Supporting materials in a language other than English and French, must be accompanied by a brief explanatory summary in either language)