

**TURKISH REPUBLIC
PRIME MINISTER'S
WATER PRIZE
(5th World Water Forum - Istanbul 2009)**

1. INTRODUCTION

The 5th World Water Forum, the world's most important water-related event, is organized every three years in cooperation between the World Water Council and the host country. Following the previous Fora, held in Morocco (1997), the Netherlands (2000), Japan (2003), and Mexico (2006), the 5th World Water Forum will be held in March 2009, in Istanbul. The World Water Forum is the product of an open, multi-stakeholder three-year preparatory process. The Forum is not therefore just a seven-day event, but rather a process which has the aim and objective of showing the importance of water-related problems, raising the awareness and understanding of global water issues and bringing concrete solutions to these issues.

2. THE PURPOSE AND THE THEME OF THE PRIZE

Turkey, as the host country of the 5th World Water Forum, aims to honour individuals who have contributed to society's increased awareness of water-related issues, through the endowment of a prize. The media are one of the major means to achieve this increased awareness. Within this context, it has been decided to organize the Turkish Republic Prime Minister's Water Prize, which will be an award to journalists, during the 5th World Water Forum which will take place between March 16th and 22nd, 2009 in Istanbul.

The Turkish Republic Prime Minister's Water Prize will be awarded for the first time during the 5th World Water Forum, and will be offered to one local and one foreign journalist for their excellent published works on water-related issues, in the Turkish and non-Turkish press. From among the applicants, one Turkish winner and one non-Turkish winner will be selected by a distinguished jury which will consist of international water experts and journalists.

The general theme of the prize, which is at the same time the main theme of the 5th World Water Forum, is "**Bridging Divides for Water**". This theme means bridging divides between east and west; north and south, the rich and the poor; developed and developing countries; and supply and demand. Furthermore, it describes the reconciliation of these differences for a better management of water resources. The applicants shall associate their published works to the main theme of the Forum.

3. THE AMOUNT OF THE PRIZE

The total amount of the prize is €40 000. This prize will be given to one Turkish and one non-Turkish journalist after the screening process of their submissions of an article published in the Turkish or non-Turkish press. Each winning journalist will receive a prize of €20 000. Moreover, a trophy and a certificate will be given to the prize winners.

4. TERMS OF APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Applications to the Turkish Prime Minister's Water Prize will be made only through the Virtual Meeting Space of the 5th World Water Forum.

(<http://portal.worldwaterforum5.org>)

Other procedures related the applications are mentioned below.

4.1. DEFINITION OF CANDIDATES

Every journalist whose work was published in the Turkish or non-Turkish press can be a candidate for the Turkish Republic Prime Minister's Water Prize.

4.2. CRITERIA TO EVALUATE APPLICATIONS

Certain criteria will be taken into account in the evaluation of the candidates' applications. The candidates should pay attention to the criteria mentioned below:

- a) The originality and the quality of the article in terms of their content.
- b) The impact of the article on public opinion on water-related issues.
- c) The article's association with the 5th World Water Forum's main theme "Bridging Divides for Water".

4.3. APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

The following documents are requested to validate the application:

- a) The article written or co-written by the candidate. (will be uploaded to the VMS.)
- b) A completed Application Form through the VMS.
- c) An explanatory article (approximately 400 words) which describes the association of the candidate's work to the 5th World Water Forum's main theme "Bridging Divides for Water". (will be written on the VMS)
- d) The CV (curriculum vitae) of the author(s). (will be uploaded to the VMS.)

If any of the application documents is incomplete, the application will not be considered.

4.4. APPLICATION DATE AND VALIDITY TERMS OF THE APPLICATION

Journalists who apply for the Prize should take into account the application deadline and the validity terms of application mentioned below:

- Applications open on July 31st, 2008 and close on December 30th, 2008 (meaning that the application period lasts five months).
- Applications will be made only through the 5th World Water Forum's Virtual Meeting Space (<http://portal.worldwaterforum5.org/>) . No applications will be accepted after the application closing date, December 30th, 2008.
- All applications for the Turkish Republic Prime Minister's Water Prize should have been published in the Turkish or non-Turkish press between March 22nd, 2006 and December 30th, 2008.
- Applications and articles must be submitted in English or Turkish only. Applications and articles written in other languages should be translated into Turkish or English, at the cost of the author(s). Submissions in other languages will not be accepted.
- Submissions will not be returned to the candidate.
- Each candidate can apply with one article only.
- The Secretariat of the 5th World Water Forum and the World Water Council reserve the right to use partially or in whole the articles submitted for the purpose of promoting the Prize and the World Water Forum, while giving due credit to the authors.

5. PROCESS - TIMELINE

July 31st, 2008, Announcement of the Prize and launching of the applications:

The announcements will be made through the websites of the Prime Ministry of the Turkish Republic, the Turkish Ministry of Environment and Forestry, the 5th World Water Forum, the World Water Council (WWC), State Hydraulic Works (DSI), Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality (IBB) and Istanbul Water and Sewerage Administration (ISKI). From this date, applications will be made through the 5th World Water Forum's Virtual Meeting Space.

August 1st – 15th, Setting up of the Prize Committee:

The Prize Committee will be set up according to the terms defined in article 6.1 of these terms of reference.

December 30th, 2008, Deadline for Applications:

Applications will be closed on this date. Applications after this date will not be accepted.

January 1st - February 15th, 2009, Pre-screening of the applications:

The applications will be pre-screened by the Prize Secretariat. Following this, ten Turkish and ten non-Turkish journalists will be selected to attend the Forum week.

February 16th – 28th, 2008, Selecting the winners:

According to the language they speak, ten Turkish and ten non-Turkish finalists will be evaluated by the Turkish and non-Turkish members of the jury. After evaluation, the jury will decide on the Turkish and non-Turkish winning journalist for the Turkish Republic Prime Minister's Water Prize.

March 16th – 22nd, 2009, Award Ceremony

An award ceremony in which the prize will be presented to the winners will take place during the Forum week. After the award ceremony, a press conference will be organized with the presence of the prize winners.

6. THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

6.1. Prize Committee

The Prize Committee is responsible for the general planning and the management of the process of the Prize. Its membership will include an equal number of Turkish and non-Turkish members. Efforts will be made to ensure that the Prize Committee is balanced in terms of gender and sector.

6.2. Jury

The jury of the Turkish Republic Prime Minister's Water Prize is composed of distinguished individuals including an equal number of Turkish and non-Turkish journalists and water experts.

According to the language they speak, the members of the jury will evaluate ten Turkish and ten non-Turkish finalists and decide which candidates will win the prize.

6.3. The Prize Secretariat

The prize secretariat is based in the Secretariat of the 5th World Water Forum. The responsibilities of the Prize Secretariat are mentioned below:

- The general coordination of the Prize.
- The preparation of the workflow and time schedule of the Prize.
- Receiving the applications.
- To screen the candidates to select ten Turkish and ten non-Turkish works.
- Implementation of the promotion of the Prize, including the publishing and the distribution of the documents and brochures regarding the prize.
- The organization of the award ceremony and press conference.
- Other logistical services.

7. PROMOTION OF THE PRIZE

After the official announcement of the prize, the supporting institutions will assist in advertising and promoting the prize through their respective websites and newsletters.

These institutions are:

- Prime Ministry of the Turkish Republic
- Turkish Ministry of Environment and Forestry
- The General Secretariat of 5th World Water Forum
- World Water Council (WWC)
- State Hydraulic Works (DSI)
- Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality (IBB)
- Istanbul Water and Sewerage Administration (ISKI)

The main tasks of the institutions that support the prize are mentioned below:

- During the validity of the application procedure, announcements and orientations to the 5th World Water Forum's Virtual Meeting Space, will be placed on the websites of the institutions.
- The documents will be found on the websites of the institutions.
- Giving out the brochures and the documents about the Water Prize during their participation in different events.
- The supporting institutions will contribute to the presentation of the Prize during international events in which they participate.

8. PRIZE CEREMONY AND PRESS CONFERENCE

An award ceremony will be organized for the Turkish Republic Prime Minister's Water Prize during the Forum week, from March 16th to 22nd, 2009.

A cheque, representing the monetary reward, a trophy and a certificate will be given to the two candidates who win the Turkish Republic Prime Minister's Water Prize.

A press conference will be organized after the award ceremony.