



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

29 November 2012

WORLD BOOK CAPITAL NOMINATION 2015 CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Selection Committee for the World Book Capital is calling for nominations for the World Book Capital 2015. The complete applications including a cover or support letter from the Mayor of the candidate-city and drafted in one of UNESCO Secretariat's working languages (English or French), should reach UNESCO no later than Friday 26 April 2013. No application received after this date will be taken into consideration.

The applications shall contain maximum 25 pages in A4 format and should be transmitted by the post to the UNESCO contact below (in 5 original copies) and, if possible, by e-mail in pdf format, to: wbcc@unesco.org. The Jury reserves the right to refuse applications exceeding 25 pages.

The applications shall include a focal point (name, title, postal address, telephone and e-mail) responsible for the correspondence between the City and the Committee throughout the nomination process.

In submitting their applications, the candidate cities or municipalities grant UNESCO and the other members of the Selection Committee the right to circulate and publish the applications on line for information purposes.

The candidate programmes shall be aimed at promoting books and fostering reading during the period between one World Book and Copyright Day and the next (23 April).

To ensure a balanced representation of all regions¹ of the world, the Selection Committee will not consider consecutive nominations of cities or municipalities from the same region. Since the 2014 title was awarded to a city of the African region (Port Harcourt, Nigeria), no African candidature will be taken into consideration for the 2015 nomination. Furthermore, the Jury will only consider an application for a city in a country where another city has been a World Book Capital City if a period of 10 years or more has elapsed since the previous host city nomination.

The applicants' programme proposals will be examined in the light of the following six criteria:

1. the submission of an activity programme specifically conceived for the World Book Capital City programme and implemented during the city's term as Capital City with long-term benefits for partners and society of large;
2. a general outline of expenses foreseen and fund-raising strategies;

.../...

¹ According to its own criteria based on operational needs, UNESCO distinguishes five regions: Africa, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and North America, and Latin America and the Caribbean (see annex).

3. the degree of municipal, regional, national and international involvement, including professional and non-governmental organizations, and the foreseeable impact of the programmes;
4. the quantity and quality of one-time or ongoing activities organized by the applicant city in collaboration with national, regional and international professional organizations representing writers, publishers, booksellers and librarians respecting the various players in the book supply chain and in the scientific and literary community;
5. the quantity and quality of any other noteworthy projects promoting and fostering books and reading;
6. conformity with the principles of freedom of expression, freedom to publish and to distribute information, as stated in the UNESCO Constitution as well as Articles 19 and 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and by the Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials (Florence Agreement, see annex).

By presenting its application each candidate city or municipality commits, in case of nomination, to:

1. associate UNESCO and the three professional associations represented in the Selection Committee, in its communication and information campaign by displaying their respective logos, on all publications and on the website of the World Book Capital programme);
2. provide UNESCO, which will share it with all members of the Selection Committee, with:
 - a. an interim report on the activities implemented during the first part of nomination year (23 April 2015 - October 2015);
 - b. a final report on the activities implemented during the entire nomination year (23 April 2015 - 22 April 2016);
3. systematically invite UNESCO and the three professional associations represented in the Selection Committee to all main events relating the World Book Capital City programme;
4. produce and circulate information and communication tools on the City programme both in national and international languages.

.../...

The City authorities should also commit to facilitating possible evaluation audits implemented on UNESCO's request.

The Selection Committee – operating under the auspices of UNESCO – is made up of one representative of the International Publishers Association (IPA), one representative of the International Booksellers' Federation (IBF), one representative of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and one UNESCO representative. The Committee's task is to choose a World Book Capital each year, in accordance with 31 C/Resolution 29, adopted by the UNESCO General Conference on 2 November 2001.

The first World Book Capital chosen prior to the adoption of 31 C/Resolution 29 was Madrid (Spain) in 2001. Subsequent World Book Capital Cities have been Alexandria (Egypt) in 2002, New Delhi (India) in 2003, and Antwerp (Belgium) in 2004. Montreal (Canada) was the World Book Capital City in 2005, succeeded by Turin (Italia) in 2006, Bogotá (Colombia) in 2007, Amsterdam (The Netherlands) in 2008, Beirut (Lebanon) in 2009, Ljubljana (Slovenia) in 2010, Buenos Aires (Argentina) in 2011, Yerevan (Armenia) in 2012, Bangkok (Thailand) in 2013 and Port Harcourt (Nigeria) in 2014.

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