

PUBLIC NOTICE

Call for application to participate in the 18th International Standards Olympiad 2023

Every year, Rwanda through Rwanda Standards Board (RSB) participates in the International Standards Olympiad organized by Korean Agency for Technology and Standards (KATS) whose aim is to facilitate an understanding of the application of **science and technology** in the area of Standardization among the young students from middle (O-Level) and high (A-level) school categories aged between 13-15 and 16-18 years old respectively across the world.

This competition is designed to provide opportunities for students to demonstrate their knowledge and share new ideas on standards and technology; additionally, the participants have a great opportunity to demonstrate their creativity, upscaling their problem-solving skills and learn how to cooperate through team based competitive standardization activities.

This year, KATS organized the **18th International Standards Olympiad 2023** which will be conducted in person from **21st to 23rd August 2023** in Korea.

It is in this context that RSB invites all competent students willing to participate at National level and who meet the requirements to submit their application documents (motivation letter, identification and formal past-examinations records) to e-mail: felicien.hakizamungu@rsb.gov.rw not later than **7th July 2023**. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and the dates for written tests and oral interviews will be communicated as soon as all successful shortlisted candidates are published.

Once a student is selected to participate in this competition, please note that:

- KATS has committed to support with 50% of airfares charges, therefore Schools/Parents will have to pay 50% of the airfare to Korea of their selected students/ children;
- Accommodation and meals will be covered by Olympiad secretariat;

For further clarification, kindly contact **Mr. HAKIZAMUNGU Felicien** by his email or telephone number **0788484024** or **0734598057**.

Thanking you for your usual collaboration.

Yours sincerely,


MURENZI Raymond
Director General



CONCEPT NOTE FOR THE 18th INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OLYMPIAD 2023

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Since 2006, the Korean Agency for Technology and Standards (KATS) and the Korean Students Association (KSA) have been organizing the International Standards Olympiad to facilitate an understanding of **science and technology** in the area of Standardization among the young students from **middle** and **high** school categories respectively aged between 13-15 and 16-18 years old across the world.

This Olympiad is designed to provide opportunities for students to demonstrate their knowledge and to share new ideas on standards and technology; the participants will have also a great opportunity to demonstrate their creativity, increase problem-solving skills and learn how to cooperate through team based competitive standardization activities.

The most recent previous competitions were the 16th and 17th International Standards Olympiads. Due to Covid-19 pandemic, these competitions were both held virtually from 24th to 26th August 2021 and 23rd to 25th August 2022 respectively. For the 16th International Standards Olympiad, this competition was attended by 7 countries (Rwanda, China, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Republic of Korea and Singapore). Rwanda joined with two (2) teams (six students) and won one **Silver Award** and one **Honourable Mention Award**. For the 17th International Standards Olympiads, this competition was also attended by 7 countries (Rwanda, Korea, China, Russia, Indonesia, Japan and Singapore); Hence Rwanda participated with six teams (18 students) and won one **Bronze medal** and two **Honourable Mention Awards**.

This year, KATS organized the “18th International Standards Olympiad 2023” which will be conducted **face to face** in Korea from 21st to 23rd August 2023. All expenses will be covered by the Olympiad Secretariat, but for the **airfare**, it will only cover **50%** for two team (6 students) and one accompanist (teacher or guide from standard body).

Rwanda through RSB is therefore initiating a National selection process for identifying potential candidates that will form the teams to represent Rwanda in the 18th International Olympiad Competition 2023.

A call for applicants shall be sent to the Heads of schools leading secondary schools and through RSB website for the attention of students who wish to participate in this competition to ensure early preparation and readiness to ensure timely submission of selected teams to KATS not later than 14th July 2023.

1.2 Rationale

While standards have been always defined as transformational tools in all development initiatives; their linkages with the education sector and impacts of one to another are of a prominent role in driving the desired sustainable development. Additionally, promoting awareness on the use of standards in academia and integration of standards in the developed education curricula has been identified as strategic solutions to complement the contribution of the industrial development and economic transformation.

Participating in this International Olympiad Competition demonstrated an effective contribution in disseminating the use of standards in the education sector as to achieve the following Rwanda Quality Policy orientations:

- Engaging the academia as a key stakeholder in standardization activities;
- Engaging youth in standardization activities to prepare the future standardization experts;
- Carry out wider awareness on standardization particularly to the educated young people;
- Influencing the education programs in order to integrate standardization in education system in Rwanda;
- Positioning national standardization activities at international best practices and marking the Rwandan political will in standardization at international level.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE COMPETITION

- Promote public awareness on the importance of standardization for the convenience and safety,
- Enhance the students' scientific creativity by providing an opportunity to explore new ways of standardization.
- Promote and facilitate an international tournament hosted by Korea to advance the country's capabilities in standardization education.
- Give an opportunity to young leaders show creativity with challenging mind and teamwork
- Finding youth who will lead the technology in the 4th industrial revolution era by promoting invention, science and creativity
- Finding young talents who will lead the future intellectual property society
- Establishing an active response system for the continuous promotion of standardization competitions

3. TARGET GROUPS TO PARTICIPANTS IN INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIAD COMPETITION 2023 AT NATIONAL LEVEL

This year, at National level prior to maximize the competitiveness and readiness of Rwandan Teams, it is expected that a selection of candidates is initiated by end of June. Secondary schools in general education are targeted.

After the launch of the open call, RSB team in charge of coordinating this exercise will put more emphasizes on collaborating with The District Education Officers (DEOs) and Heads of Schools to assist in selecting the competitive winners at their district level.

The selected candidates will be coached and given guidance in line with the competition and will compete to finally select a number of **six** (3 in A-Level and 3 in O-Level) best winners forming **two (2) teams** to represent Rwanda in International Standards Olympiad 2023 in Korea.

4. SELECTION CRITERIA

The selecting team will consider the themes to be developed and at which level competitors performed. The selection will be based on the performance in the following points:

- Respecting the structure of the standard in the work
- Clear explanation of the subject matter (mastering the science related, eloquence management of the audience)
- Innovative/creative inspiration in the development of the subject

- Linking the subject matter with economic development of the country
- Smart structure/format/presentation/design of the work
- High Speaking English proficiency

5. AWARDS

a) KATS awards

Awards to compete for at international level are classified into the following six (6) categories based on the teams' performance:

- Platinum (1stPosition),
- Gold (2ndPosition),
- Silver (3rdPosition),
- Bronze (4th Position),
- Special (5thPosition),
- Honorable Mention (6th Position)

Note: This year's competition equivalents of the above awards in cash prizes will be communicated later by KATS.

b) Rwanda Standards Board (RSB) awards

As a motivation for the participants to competent at national level to ensure selection of a competitive candidates, all six (6) selected students who will represent the country in the competition at international level will be awarded with **100,000Rwf** each together with a **recognition certificate**.

Note: The awardees will get all those prizes while celebrating the Word Standards Day (WSD)

6. TASK GIVEN TO STUDENTS IN THE COMPETITION

- To develop an **international standard material** on assigned topic
- Prepare its **power point presentation**
- Prepare also the **power point presentation video**
- Prepare a video showcasing Rwanda Culture (about 5 seconds)

7. COMPETITION ROADMAP

Activities	Deadline	Responsibility
Preparation of Concept note and call for application	26 th June 2023	SPTTA Unit
Publication of the call for application	30 th June 2023	SPTTA Unit
Memo clarifying the activities and proposed Budget	7 th July 2023	SPTTA Unit
Awareness (Online) for pre-selected participants	7 th July 2023	NSD
Selection exams (written and interviews)	12 th – 13 th July 2023	NSD

Selection of 6 participants and groups forming	14 th July 2023	NSD
Submission of the final selected students (National Winners) at KATS	14 th July 2023	NSD
Coaching of winners (5 days at RSB Head office)	14 th - 18 th August 2023	NSD
Departure from Rwanda to Korea	19 th August 2023	Teacher (RSB staff)
Competition (3days in Korea)	21 st -23 rd August 2023	Teacher (RSB staff)
Return from Korea to Rwanda	24 th August 2023	Teacher (RSB staff)

8. RECOMMENDATIONS AND WAY FORWARD

- RSB to approve the proposed methodology and the proposed budget
- Mentoring and preparing **two team** (6 students) at RSB Head office for an increased competitiveness
- RSB to offer refreshments (during preparatory activities) as per the proposed budget
- RSB to award each candidate at least 100,000Rwf + Recognition certificate during World Standards Day.
- RSB to award framed certificates to participated schools during World Standards Day

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