מדינת ישראל

STATE OF ISRAEL

The Eric and Sheila Samson Prime Minister's Prize for Global Innovation in the Field of Smart Mobility

1. Introduction

In the **Government Decision 2316 of January 22, 2017** it was decided that in accordance with the objectives of the Fuel Choices Initiative as defined in Government Decision No. 2790 of January 30, 2011, and in light of the potential for Smart Mobility to reduce oil dependency, the Fuel Choices Initiative should be updated so that the activities of the Division of Fuel Substitution will also be expanded to the Smart Mobility sector: artificial intelligence, Big Data , Autonomous Vehicles, Cyber Security, Privacy, Connected Vehicles, etc. and that the Division will concentrate the Fuel Choices and Smart Mobility Initiative, assist in the creation of monitoring and performance metrics and ensure that the plans implemented within this framework are consistent with the objectives set in this resolution.

With the aim of raising global awareness of scientific breakthroughs, innovative technologies, new initiatives for energy alternatives and Smart Mobility, and of promoting the Program goals, as part of the aforementioned government decisions, it was decided to grant an annual award – "**The Eric and Sheila Samson Prime Minister's Prize for Global Innovation in Smart Mobility**" (hereinafter – **the Prize**).

This regulation was drawn up in the framework of a collaboration between the Ministry of Science and Technology (hereinafter – **the Ministry**) and Keren Hayesod–United Israel Appeal (hereinafter – **Keren Hayesod**).

This regulation deals with the granting of the annual Prize by the Prime Minister, in accordance with the details below.

2. The purpose of the Prize

The Government of the State of Israel views research, development and implementation of technologies that reduce global petroleum use in transportation and technologies that deal with Smart Mobility, as a national mission, which requires investing national resources and utmost prioritization due to the potential for international leadership in this area, and the economic opportunities in the field.

The Prize will be granted for global, scientific or technological innovation in the Smart Mobility field.

3. **Definitions**

a. **Israeli Researcher** – a person who is engaged in research and is a citizen of the State of Israel and a permanent resident in it, who centralizes his life and activities in Israel. Regarding permanent residence, periods of absence from Israel that do not impair the permanent residence status of the candidate may be excluded from being taken into account.
b. **International Researcher** – a person who is engaged in research who does not meet the definition of "Israeli researcher";
c. **Smart Mobility** – The Smart Mobility field, including automotive energy, advanced computing, cyber, image processing, artificial intelligence, Big Data, privacy and other areas that have the potential to promote Smart Mobility;
d. **Recognized Institution of Higher Education** – a Recognized Institution of Higher Education in Israel within the definition of the Council for Higher Education Law, 1958;
e. **Minister** – the Minister of Science and Technology.

4. **The Prize**

a. The Prize will be awarded by the Prime Minister, or if he is unable, by the Acting Prime Minister (if appointed) or by the Deputy Prime Minister, as well as the Minister, at a ceremony organized and funded by Keren Hayesod.
b. The Prize will be funded by the Ministry.
c. The number of Prizes granted each year shall not to exceed eight.
d. It will be clarified that the Prize will not be granted to unincorporated bodies.

5. **The Prize Framework**

This regulation involves granting two types of Prizes, as detailed below:

a. **Ground Breaking Research Prize** – a 100,000 Dollar prize to an Israeli Researcher, and the same Prize to an International Researcher, based on their achievements in Smart Mobility research.
b. **Researcher Recruitment Prize** – a 200,000 Dollar prize, which will be granted to leading International Researchers in the Smart Mobility field who will join as full faculty members in Higher Education institutions in Israel in the year the prize is granted or the following year. The Prize for encouraging researchers to serve as faculty members will be posted for submission in accordance with the recommendation of the Board of Trustees, which will be based on professional or budgetary considerations, without obligation to be published each year.

6. Conditions to Apply for Candidacy

a. An application for a **Ground Breaking Research Prize** will be submitted by a third party in response to a Call for Proposals by the Ministry, who is one of the following:
   1) A previous Prize recipient;
   2) The recipient of the Nobel Prize or the Wolf Award or the EMET Prize, in areas related to the Prize field;
   3) President or Vice President or Deputy President of a recognized Higher Education institution in Israel within the definition of the Council for Higher Education Law, 1958;
   4) President or Vice President or Deputy President of a Higher Education institution or scientific institute outside of Israel recognized in their State;
   5) The head of a scientific organization of scientists, whose organization deals, inter alia, in the field of the Prize;
   6) President of the Israeli Academy of Sciences and Humanities;
   7) President of a national academy of a country outside Israel;
   8) Director or Chief Technology Director of a commercial company or investment fund.

b. A candidate will not be considered for the Ground Breaking Research Prize if they:
   1) Nominated themselves for the award.
   2) are deceased.

c. A recognized Higher Education Institution in Israel will submit an application for a **Researcher Recruitment Prize**, in response to a Call for Proposals of the Ministry. The institutions will nominate leading International Researchers in the field of Smart Mobility, whom they intend to add to the institution's faculty in the current or next academic year, subject to the Researcher being awarded this Prize. The Prize money will be paid to the researcher over a period of four years from the year of winning and subject to the continuation of his tenure on the faculty of a Higher Education Institution in Israel.

d. A nomination for the Researcher Recruitment Prize will not be considered if the candidate serves as faculty members at a recognized institution of Higher Education in Israel.

7. Board of Trustees

a. The Board of Trustees shall be comprised of 10 members, appointed by the Prime Minister on the recommendation of the Minister, after the Minister has consulted with the President of the Israeli Academy of Sciences and Humanities, as follows:
   1) Two representatives of the Israeli Government:

A. the Chief Scientist of the Ministry of Science and Technology or his/her representative;
B. A representative of the Prime Minister's Office;

2) A representative of Keren Hayesod;
3) Six representatives of the Public, of which at least three of them having a senior international academic standing in the relevant fields, and with at least two of the Public representatives being non-residents of Israel. A person may serve as one who fulfills both of the above conditions. For the purposes of this Regulation, "Israeli resident" as defined in the Income Tax Ordinance [new version].
4) Donor Family Representative – Sheila and Eric Samson.

b. The Prime Minister will appoint the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees from the Representatives of the Public in the Board of Trustees in accordance with the procedure set out in Section 7.a.
c. The appointment of a member to the Board of Trustees will be valid for five years, however a member of the Board of Trustees will continue in office until a new member is appointed in their place.
d. A member of the Board of Trustees will not apply for the Prize during their term on the Board. A Trustee who has nominated a candidate during a given year will not be a member of the Board of Trustees during that year.
e. The Legal Department of the Ministry of Science and Technology will accompany the work of the Board of Trustees.
f. The Board of Trustees will act autonomously and independently, and its functions will be as follows:
   1) Determine and approve the publication of the various Prizes, terms and wording of the Calls for Proposals and questionnaires for applying for the Prizes, and update them from time to time;
   2) Choosing every year appropriate candidates for the Panel of Judges (hereinafter – **the Panel**), including the appointment of the Chairperson of the Panel and his/hers standing alternate, and establish criteria according to which potential candidates will be approached to serve as judges. The final composition of the Panel of Judges is subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees.
   3) Monitor the integrity of a judging process, review the decisions of the Panel of Judges, receive clarifications as needed and approve the decision of the judges. The Board of Trustees may instruct the Panel of Judges to reconsider its decision, but will not do so on scientific, professional or academic grounds. The Board of Trustees, with the approval of the Ministry's Legal Adviser, may decide not to approve a decision of the Panel of Judges for reasons that are not scientific, professional or academic. In such a case, the Board of Trustees may remit the decision of the Panel of Judges for further discussion or order the appointment of a new Panel of Judges.

e. The Ministry shall provide the Panel of Judges all the relevant materials of the candidates within a reasonable time before convening the meetings of the Panel.
f. The Ministry will ensure that all members of the Panel of Judges have been invited to attend the Panel's meeting at least 10 days in advance of its scheduled date.
g. The Panel of Judges will convene in full composition, as initially appointed, to select the Prize recipient. The Panel will reach its decisions by a majority vote. Panel hearings will be recorded for internal purposes only. After selecting the Prize recipient, the Panel shall record in its minutes its decisions and reasons. The minutes will be signed by the Chairperson of the Panel of Judges and its members, and will immediately be given to the Chairperson of the Board.
h. If a member of the Panel of Judges cannot perform their duties regularly, has resigns or deceased, the Board of Trustees shall appoint another member in his/her place according to these regulation.
i. In exceptional cases where a member of the Panel of Judges is unable to attend a meeting or in the event of a member of the Panel of Judges being replaced and another person not yet appointed in their stead, the Panel of Judges may convene and reach decisions with the prior approval of the Board of Trustees, which shall be documented by the Ministry, provided that the number of the Panel of Judges members participating in the meeting is the greater number of two-thirds of the number of judges initially appointed (or the nearest round number) or three.
j. Meetings of the Panel of Judges will be confidential. The names of the members of the Panel of Judges will be confidential until after the Board of Trustees has approved the Prize recipient and the Chairperson of the Board has publicly announced the Prize recipient, in accordance with paragraph 9.b. below.
k. The Panel of Judges may request additional opinions from external parties in the field regarding the candidates.
l. Members of the Panel of Judges will receive reimbursement of actual expenses as well as compensation for the time they devoted in fulfilling their duties as is customary in the Ministry or in cases not regulated by the Ministry's procedures according to the prior approval of the Ministry's accountant.

9. **Common provisions applicable to a member of the Board of Trustees or the Panel of Judges (hereinafter - "trustee or judge")**

a. A person shall not be appointed Trustee or Judge without undertaking in writing to comply with the provisions of these regulations as amended from time to time.

g. A quorum for the resolutions of the Board of Trustees' is at least six of its members, including the Chairperson or his/her standing alternate, or at least seven of its members without the Chairperson or his/her standing alternate.
h. If a member of the Board of Trustees cannot perform their duties regularly, has resigns or deceased, the Prime Minister shall appoint another member in his/her stead, as provided in subsection 7.a. in these regulations. Replacing a Member of the Board of Trustees and not appointing another member in their stead will not affect the ability of the Board of Trustees to operate, provided that there will be at least six Trustees or a majority of the number of Trustees appointed in the first place, whichever is higher, and that the Board of Trustees has a Chairperson or his/her standing alternate.
i. The Board of Trustees may transfer prominent candidates who did not receive a Prize in a given year as candidates for the following year. This can only be done once every time a person is nominated as a candidate under subsections 6.a. or 6.c. (each section separately) of this policy.
j. The members of the Board of Trustees will receive reimbursement of actual expenses as well as compensation for the time they devoted in fulfilling their duties as is customary in the Ministry, or in cases not regulated by the Ministry's procedures according to the prior approval of the Ministry's accountant.

8. Panel of Judges

a. The Board of Trustees shall appoint one or more Panels of Judges, according to its decision that year on granting the Prize, with each committee having between 5 to 7 members. Appointed as members of the Panel of Judges will be reputable and respected figures in the fields of the Prizes. The Board of Trustees may appoint more than one Panel of Judges, based on professional considerations. The provisions of these regulations regarding the Panels of Judges shall apply respectively to each committee accordingly, in the event of more than one committee being appointed.
b. The Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, or a representative on his behalf from the Board of Trustees, shall serve as an observer at the meetings of the Panel of Judges. In addition, the representative of the Ministry's Legal Department may be an observer.
c. The Members of the Panel of Judges will be appointed after the deadline of submission of candidacy for the Prize. A person who has nominated a candidate for a Prize will not be appointed to the Panel of Judges of the same year.
d. Members of the Panel of Judges will act autonomously and independently. Without detracting from the aforementioned, the Chairperson of the Board will instruct the judges upon taking their duties regarding their performance thereof.

b. A trustee or judge must keep confidential the course of his/her respective committee's work and all other Prize related procedures, including the identity of the members of the Panel of Judges, the identity of the candidates and the identity of the Prize recipient, as applicable. The confidentiality of the identity of the members of the Panel of Judges and the Prize recipient will be maintained until after the Prize recipient has been approved by the Board of Trustees and the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees has publicly announced the Prize recipient. Such public announcement shall be made after the approval of the Ministry in accordance with the accepted ministerial regulations.
c. A trustee or a judge shall not be in a position of conflict of interest as to his position or duties under these Regulations. If any such concern arises at any time regarding a trustee, he/she shall notify the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees or whether regarding a judge, he/she will notify the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees and the Chairperson of the Panel of Judges. The trustee or judge will act in accordance with the instructions of the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees.
d. A trustee or judge shall not be nominated for a Prize during the period in which he/she holds this position.
e. The Minister of Science and Technology, with the approval of the Ministry's Legal Adviser, may remove a trustee or a judge from position in the event of a circumstance that, because of its substance, severity or significance, the trustee or judge is not fit to continue to serve, or when such circumstances exist wherein his/her continued service may adversely affect the status of the Prize.
f. The Board of Trustees and the Panel of Judges will follow these regulations as well as administrative guidelines that will be formulated, as necessary, by the Ministry, in coordination with Keren Hayesod.

10. **Criteria for selecting Prize recipients**

a. The Panel of Judges will recommend the Prize recipient or recipients, based on their achievements in the field of the Prize, regardless of origin, race, color, religion, gender or political views.
b. The Panel of Judges will recommend to the Board of Trustees one or more nominees selected for the Prize, in accordance with the Prize framework set in section 5 above. The provisions of these regulations for a single Prize recipient shall apply, respectively, to each Prize recipient should there be more than one.
c. The Panel of Judges may recommend to the Board of Trustees that a particular Prize not be given that year if it believes that there is no suitable candidate for the Prize.
d. The decision of the Panel of Judges may not be appealed on professional grounds.

11. **The award ceremony**

The Prizes will be awarded at a ceremony to be held in Israel and organized by Keren Hayesod. Details regarding the ceremony and the manner of its publication will be jointly determined by the Ministry and Keren Hayesod.
The Prize recipient is required to personally attend the award ceremony in order to receive the Prize, except for special circumstances approved by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees may revoke the Prize, including the Prize money, of a Prize recipient who fails to attend the ceremony.

12. **General Regulations**

a. The Israeli government intends to grant the award every year, for 10 years, but is not obligated to do so. Each year the decision to hold an award-giving process will be determined by the Ministry subject to budgetary, professional and public considerations.
b. The Ministry will publish in the media a notice of the commencement of the application process, the main conditions for nomination, relevant deadlines, as well as other details that the Ministry or the Board of Trustees consider important to bring to the public's attention. The announcement will be published in Hebrew and English.
c. An application form for a Ground Breaking Research Prize will be signed by the person submitting the candidate for the award (see section 6.a. above), and upon submission, the Ministry will approach for the candidate to sign an affidavit, the wording and signature procedures of which will be determined by the Ministry's Legal Adviser, according to which the candidate knows the award rules and that he/she agrees that his/her candidacy is subject to its instructions.
d. The application form for a Researcher Recruitment Prize will be signed by a Vice President at a Higher Education Institution in Israel or a senior position, as well as a signed statement stating that the researcher is fit and deserving to serve as a faculty member at the institution.
   A condition for winning a Researcher Recruitment Prize will be the official acceptance of the researcher according to the practice of the relevant institution, as well as serving as a full-time academic faculty member in a Higher Education Institution in Israel for at least four years.
e. The Ministry may complete the awarding process for a given year, up to the end of the calendar year following the awarding year (for example, the awarding process may begin for applicants who were nominated in 2012, and the evaluation and awarding process completed during 2013).
f. The Board of Trustees or the Ministry may establish procedures as necessary with regard to the materials to be submitted with the application form or to

streamline the award process, provided that they do not contradict the terms of these Regulations, explicitly or implicitly.

g. Should a candidate decease after his/her candidacy was submitted, but before the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees officially announced his/her selection as a recipient of the Prize (as detailed in subsection (l) below), and is eventually chosen as the Prize recipient, the Prize certificate shall be handed to his successors without the Prize money.

h. Should a candidate decease after an official announcement by the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees on his/her selection as a Prize recipient (as detailed in subsection (k) below) and there is a written request to receive the Prize money from his/her successors, and no later than one year after his/her death, the Board of Trustees will consider their request.

i. The Ministry, by means of a representative it shall appoint, shall coordinate the awarding process in accordance with the regulations herein, as well as the work of the Board of Trustees and the Panel of Judges.

j. The Board of Trustees and the Panel of Judges may receive administrative and secretarial assistance from the Ministry; The Ministry will determine its employees who will assist the Board of Trustees and the Panel of Judges in their relevant duties.

k. The Director General of the Ministry may from time to time amend the regulation herein, in consultation with the Prime Minister's Office and Keren Hayesod's representatives and with the approval of the Ministry's Legal Adviser, after obtaining the approval of at least two thirds of the Board of Trustees.

l. The Chairperson of the Board of Trustees will submit the recommendation of the Board of Trustees on the Prize recipient to the Support Committee of the Ministry of Science and Technology, who will pass said decision of the Prize recipient to the Minister of Science and Technology.

m. The Prize recipient shall be announced on the Ministry's website as well as other media platforms, as will be properly determined, suiting for a prestigious award.

13. **Initiation and Applicability**

These regulations are in force as of **12/3/2020**.

Signature: _____ **Date:** 17.3.20

Mr. Ran Ber

Director General of the Ministry of Science and Technology