#### WORLD SUMMIT AWARDS

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### PRESS RELEASE

# INTERNATIONAL WORLD SUMMIT AWARD CALLS FOR OUTSTANDING DIGITAL APPLICATIONS WITH IMPACT ON SOCIETY FROM 178 UN MEMBER STATES

WORLD SUMMIT AWARD APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR THE 2017 SELECTION OF DIGITAL CHANGEMAKERS WITH IMPACT ON SOCIETY

Salzburg, April 2017 – UN based WSA calls for applications. All digital products with impact on society can now apply with their respective WSA national experts to be nominated for the 11th edition of the WSA. All eligible applications will be reviewed by an international Jury and awarded on stage at the WSA Global Congress in Vienna, Austria in March 2018.

The digital age offers manifold applications and gimmicks, but only a few make a defined impact by solving real needs for their community. Be it a Tunisian app for <a href="https://example.content">home early breast cancer detection</a>, Mexican <a href="educational content">educational content</a> redesigned for the age of digital natives or an Austrian <a href="educational good degree solution for keeping the elderly independent">home elderly independent</a> - WSA 2017 is an international quality seal for those who invoke a real change with ICT's.

"Digital devices are the closest and most critical things for people in today's information society. The challenge is to create exciting content and innovative applications that do more than just meet basic needs of communication. Recognizing content, applications and solutions that impact the daily lives of millions and that connect minds in a smart manner, is the main incentive of WSA." WSA Chairman Peter A. Bruck states.

After the national pre-selection period, a jury of eminent experts will come together in Berlin, Germany to evaluate the submissions and select the best products from among hundreds of national nominations.

## WSA YOUNG INNOVATORS: YOUTH TAKING ACTION ON THE SDG's

The 11<sup>th</sup> edition of WSA brings also a special recognition for social digital entrepreneurs under the age of 30. Eligible for young citizens of all UN member states, <u>WSA Young Innovators</u> is open to every start-up, social entrepreneur, NGO, student or individuals using ICTs to take action on the <u>United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs)</u>. Deadline for all <u>applications</u> is June 15, 2017.

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# WSA GLOBAL CONGRESS IN VIENNA: GLORIOUS FINALE OF WSA 2017

The 40 WSA and 6 WSA Young Innovators winners will get the chance to present their products at the <u>WSA Global Congress</u> in Austria in March 2018. The 2,5 day interactive conference and workshop format, hosted in the grand room of the Vienna city hall, with the friendly support of the City of Vienna, will offer that aims to foster high level knowledge transfer between international and local stakeholders and to promote and present international digital innovation with social impact.

#### About the WSA

WSA is conducted within the framework of the United Nations' World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) 2003-2025, mandated by the 2005 WSIS Plan of Action and executed in collaboration with UN organisations such as UNESCO, UNIDO, UNCTAD and ITU. By building on a global network of national experts, non-governmental groups, government offices and other professional associations, WSA offers quality content and innovative apps from 178 UN-member states and sustains a global movement for sustainable digital solutions.

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