



in collaboration with the  
Malta Chamber of  
Scientists

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

### **A. PREAMBLE**

The Forum shall be an educational project of the National Student Travel Foundation (Malta), hereinafter referred to as NSTF. It is an annual forum of students coming from educational establishments in Malta and Gozo, and who by the end of the scholastic year will be between 16 and 22 years of age.

The Scientific aspects and proceedings of the Forum shall be the responsibility of the Malta Chamber of Scientists, hereinafter referred to as MCS, who shall direct events conjointly with NSTF.

### **B. NAME**

The forum shall be known as the NSTF - Malta Student Science Forum in collaboration with the Malta Chamber of Scientists, hereinafter referred to as the Forum.

### **C. OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the Forum shall be to provide for students to train in research, analysis and presentation, public speaking, debate, mutual respect, current science affairs, and to complement their formal education through discussion on relevant scientific, environmental and technological topics.

## **D. RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The Rules and Regulations that govern the Forum shall be those set out hereunder:

### **1. FORMAT OF THE FORUM**

- 1.1 The Forum shall be primarily a debating forum with five or six sessions conducted on a competitive basis.
- 1.2 The sessions shall be convened by NSTF and MCS during the academic year from October to May.
- 1.3 NSTF and MCS shall agree upon a list of no less than three persons knowledgeable and qualified in science and technology to form a panel of judges.
- 1.4 The topics for debate at the sessions shall be selected and formulated by NSTF and MCS, subject to ratification by the panel of judges
- 1.5 Each session shall be addressed by a keynote speaker who is knowledgeable in the topic selected for debate and who shall be expected to speak for twenty minutes. Absence of a keynote speaker shall not invalidate a session.
- 1.6 Each session shall be adjudicated by at least two members from the panel of judges, but in cases of force-majeure the representative of NSTF and MCS may rule otherwise.
- 1.7 Each student shall be present at, and participate as fit, at each session and any other extraordinary event or meeting related to the Forum.
- 1.8 The final results of the panel of judges shall be made public after the declaration of the winners.
- 1.9 The decision of the judges is final.

### **2. THE PARTICIPANTS**

- 2.1 Students who by the end of the scholastic year will be between 16 and 22 years of age may participate in the forum.
- 2.2 The registration of a student shall include the name of the educational institution, its contact details and stamp, name, surname, date of birth, I.D. no., Passport no., home address, tel. no., e-mail address and course of studies.
- 2.3 Each student shall respect and abide by the decisions of the panel of judges and shall refrain from any lobby with, or interventions in the functions of, the judges.
- 2.4 A student may withdraw from the Forum at any time and must notify NSTF and MCS in writing without delay, or may be dismissed for not participating in the spirit of the Forum.

### **3. STUDENT PARTICIPATION**

- 3.1 Throughout each Forum session student-participants shall deliver a presentation on the topic being discussed which should be tackled from the ethical, humanitarian and scientific point of view.

- 3.2 The students shall apply for the presentation after the introductory meeting held at least two weeks prior to the first session.
- 3.3 The students can choose to deliver the presentation in twos or threes.
- 3.4 Power Point may be used for presentation purposes.
- 3.5 Each presentation shall not exceed 8 minutes.
- 3.6 Points shall be allotted to each presentation on ability to address and tackle the topic being discussed, delivery and presentation, ability to respond to the questions asked and originality in tackling the topic under discussion.
- 3.7 Each presentation shall be followed by a ten-minute discussion whereby the students will have the opportunity to ask questions and place remarks on the presentation delivered and the students delivering the presentation can defend their work.
- 3.8 Three copies of the presentation shall be made available to NSTF prior to the session in document format, as well as a copy on CD/diskette. A copy of the presentation should be sent to NSTF by e-mail. NSTF reserves the right to publish the work of the students under their name in an NSTF publication related to science published in collaboration with MCS.
- 3.9 Attendance is compulsory, but one absence per participant will be allowed if a written justification is given presented to NSTF.
- 3.10 Points shall be allotted for: participation in the debate, level of research and analysis carried out and capacity to come up with original solutions to the topic under discussion.

#### **4. PRIZES**

- 4.1 All students who would have participated in at least four of the five or six sessions shall be awarded a certificate of participation.
- 4.2 The prizes associated with the Forum shall primarily be educational in nature and intended to enhance the personal development and international contacts of the awardees.
- 4.3 The annual principal prizes shall be determined and offered by NSTF and shall include participation in the London International Youth Science Forum, the number of students depending on the support found from local companies.
- 4.4 A student shall be granted participation to an International Wildlife Research week in Switzerland subject to ratification by our Swiss Counterparts.
- 4.5 NSTF and MCS shall endeavour to extend the number of prizes that may be awarded in any one year through the invitation of sponsorships or Forum partnerships.

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