

Preface

The World Health Organization estimates that between 750 million and 1 billion of the world's 6 billion people have a speech, vision, mobility, hearing or cognitive impairment. Given the broad implications that accessibility has on society in general, and the global importance of IT and accessibility, a common understanding and knowledge is a necessity. Without global standards and a harmonized approach to procuring information technology, different technical standards can be adopted.

By organizing this conference in Tunisia, the host of the World Summit of the Information Society 2005, the research Unit of Technologies of Information and Communication (UTIC) of the Higher School of Sciences and Techniques of Tunis and the Tunisian Association for the Development of Digital Technology and Human Resources (ATTR) would like to draw the attention of the different implied communities on the importance of Accessibility.

The objective of the conference is to provide an outstanding opportunity for users, accessibility experts, graphic designers, researchers and technologists to address new trends and challenges, emerging technologies and progress in standards on topics relevant to today's fast moving areas of Information and Communication Technologies and to discuss how accessibility can be supported and improved.

Fifty six research papers will be presented in these proceedings. 33 full papers, 14 short papers and 5 posters selected from more than 100 submissions from 25 countries. All submissions were carefully reviewed by two or three members of the Program Committee. Four keynotes papers written by leading experts in ICT and Accessibility are also included.

The major areas covered in the programme of the conference are:

- The Accessibility
- Accessible E-learning
- ICT & Education
- Innovation and advanced research in ICT

We hope you a stimulating and enjoyable conference, and welcome to Tunisia.

Pr. Mohamed JEMNI
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