



NISC's Open Access Policy

NISC as a publisher of scholarly journals recognises that there is a growing demand for publishers to offer open access publishing options. While NISC has historically operated on a subscription-based model, we have no ideological objections to open access publishing. This said, the major obstacle to publishing using the open access model is funding the costly publishing process so as to maintain the necessary high editorial and production standards our subscribers expect. In many quarters, open access publications have a reputation for poor production, editorial and peer review standards. Therefore, to maintain our journals' current high standing, we need clearly visible quality assurance mechanisms such that open access articles are subjected to identical rigorous quality control as other articles published in the journal.

NISC has initiated the following Open Access publishing policy for its subscription-based journals:

1. Any paper accepted to be published in a NISC subscription-based journal can be published as an open access article.
2. The author only commits to make their article open access once the paper has completed the relevant peer review process, has been laid out and is ready to be signed off by the author.
3. The author will be required to pay a once off fee in order to publish his/her paper in open access. The open access fee for 2009 will be:

Africa: ZAR 10 000 (excluding vat for South Africa)
International: US\$ 2 000

This fee must be paid in full before the paper is published. The fee excludes any additional page charges for levied for printing of any colour pages in the article.

4. The author retains copyright for the published work and licences NISC to publish the material and include it as part of any print copies of the journal.
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6. Such revenue that accrues from publishing open access articles in subscription based journals will be used by NISC to lower the subscription fee of that journal in subsequent years.

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