### Joint ITU - AICTO Workshop on "Interoperability of IPTV in the Arab region"

(Dubai, UAE, 20 - 21 September 2011 )

### E-accessibility, basic concepts and current situation in the Arab region

# Mohamed JEMNI, Head of Research Laboratory UTIC University of Tunis







#### **AGENDA**

- Presentation of UTIC Laboratory
- E-accessibility
- Web accessibility
- WCAG 2.0
- Situation in the Arab region
- Some UTIC e-accessibility projects

### Research Laboratory UTIC University of Tunis

- Web Accessibility
- Accessible e-learning
- Using ICT to improve communication with Deaf
  - Project WEB SIGN
  - Project MMS SIGN

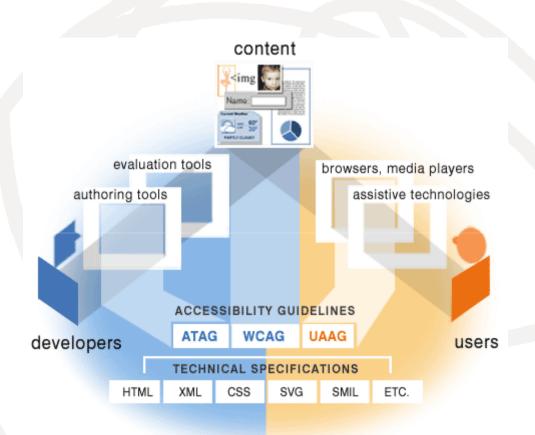
#### E-accessibility

- The scientific community has recently been aware about the importance of accessibility of people with disabilities to information technologies, called e-accessibility
- This word is specifically used to describe tools and means allowing users regardless of their culture, language, age, disability to reach information and new technologies like Internet, without dependence or aid

### The W3C Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI)

- Within the W3C, the Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) works to help the accessibility of the Web to people with disabilities through:
  - Technology support
  - Evaluation tools
  - Education and outreach
  - Coordinating with research and development
  - Guidelines development

#### The Web Accessibility Guidelines



- Web Content
   Accessibility
   Guidelines
   (WCAG)
- User Agent
   Accessibility
   Guidelines (UAAG)
- Authoring Tool
   Accessibility
   Guidelines (ATAG)

#### **Assistive technologies**

- Screen reading software (speaks displayed text and allows simulating mouse actions with the keyboard),
- Screen magnification software (for enlarging the content of the screen),
- Braille display (for displaying Braille characters),
- Speech recognition software (for text input or user interface control via speech),
- Alternative pointing devices (e. g. Foot operated mice, head mounted pointing device, or eye tracking systems),

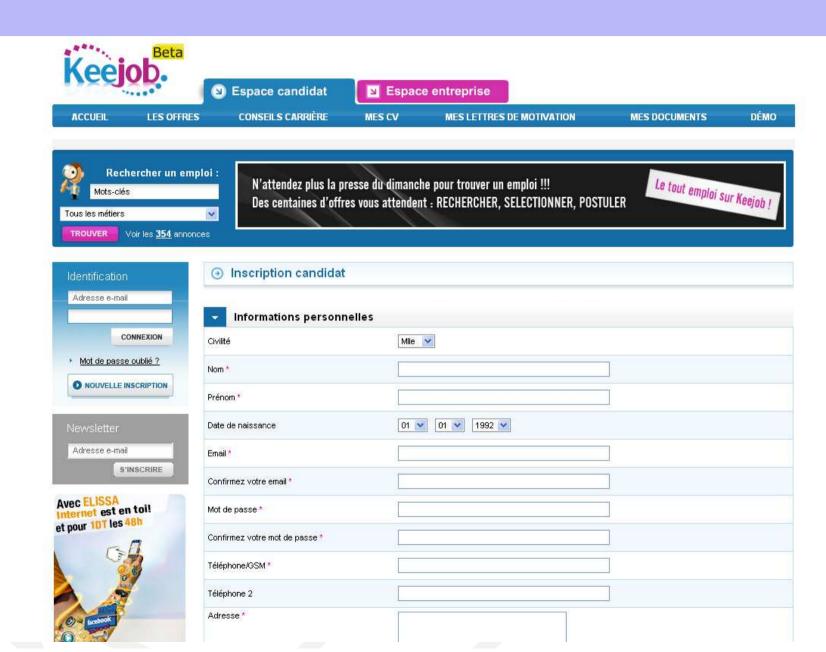
### **Examples of non conformity to accessibility guidelines**

- images that do not have alternative text
- complex images (e.g. graphs or charts) that are not adequately described
- video that is not described in text or audio
- tables that do not make sense when read serially (in a cell-by-cell mode)
- frames that do not have "NOFRAME" alternatives, or that do not have meaningful names
- browsers and authoring tools that lack keyboard support for all commands
- browsers and authoring tools that do not use standard applications programmer interfaces for the operating system they are using

### **Examples of conformity to accessibility guidelines**

- ◆ All links are expressed explicitly which make blind people in comfort when navigating.
- ◆ All the illustrative images are accompanied by textual alternatives.
- → The content is totally independent of presentation by using CSS technology.
- → The help and content plans are present in all the pages.
- → A local search is integrated into the web page in order to facilitate information research.

## Examples of a "non accessible" web site





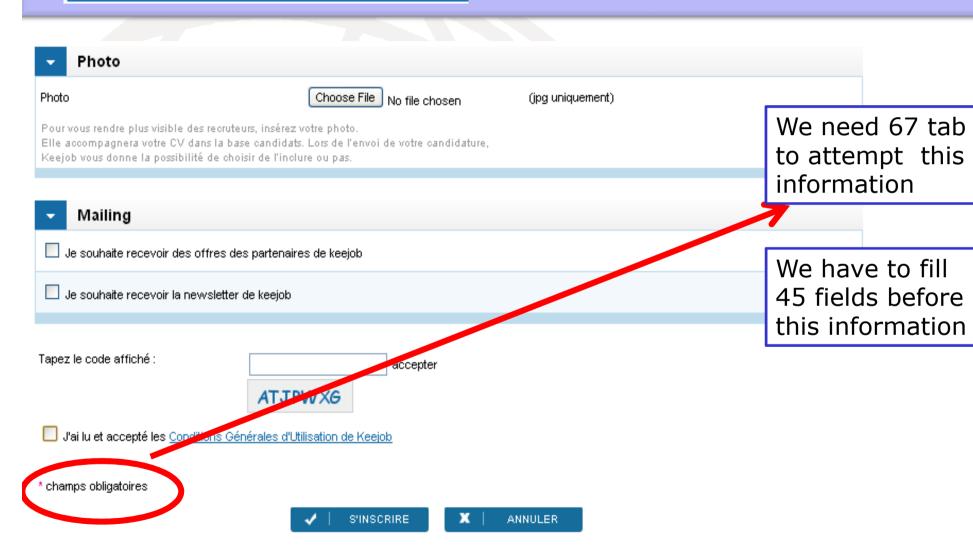
**ACCUEIL** 

LES OFFRES

Espace candidat

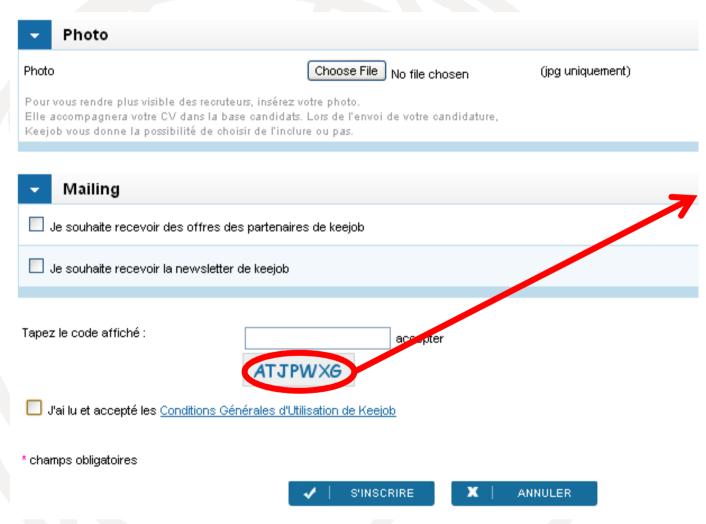
CONSEILS CARRIÈRE

#### registration page





#### creating account page

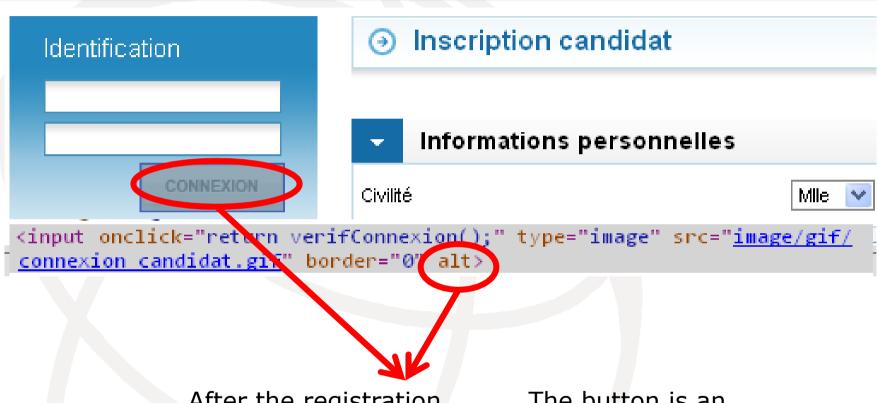


The captcha is an image, it can not be read by the screen reader

However, it should be placed before the input area



#### **Connection page**



After the registration blind can not find the button "connexion".

The button is an image without textual alternative.

#### **WCAG 2.0**

- 11 December 2008
- Four principals:POUR
  - Content must be Perceivable
  - Interface components in the content must be Operable
  - Content and controls must be Understandable
  - Content should be Robust enough to work with current and future user agents (including assistive technologies)

#### Situation in the Arab region

- Some countries are deploying considerable efforts towards awareness of the importance of making public information, digital content and web sites in accessible formats for PWD
- Some countries have not yet such preoccupation.
- Nevertheless, the accessibility of web sites and online content is still a serious barrier for PWD in all countries of the region.

#### Situation in the Arab region

■ In the same line, even if the there is a good willing of some governments toward the accessibility of web sites (at least governmental and public institutions web sites), training webmasters the technical specifications and the WCAG guidelines constitutes an obstacle.

#### Situation in the Arab region

- Assistive technologies equipments are very expensive and funding is a grave problem for PWD, especially in poor countries that are unable to give financial aid to PWD.
- The cost of specific material and related software is one of the main problems of the use of ICT by PWD. For instance, for a blind, the cost of its computer, Braille keyboard and screen reader software is almost 5000 US \$.

#### Some UTIC applications

#### **Translation of WCAG2.0 To ARABIC**

www.utic.rnu.tn/wcag2.0



#### Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0

#### Lead translating organization:

The research Unit of Technologies of Information and Communication UTIC

Higher School of Sciences and Technologies of Tunis

University of Tunis

5, Avenue Taha Hussein,

B. P.: 56, Bab Menara, 1008 Tunis, TUNISIA

Republic of Tunisia

Web site: http://www.utic.rnu.tn/

General Coordinator of the translation: Mohamed Jemni (email: mohamed.jemni@fst.rnu.tn)

ترجمة عربية معتمدة

تاريخ الإصدار 11 جوان 2010

النسخة الحالية:

http://www.utic.rnu.tn/wcag2.0

النسخة الأنقليزية:

Dated URI of the original W3C document

تصحيح:

منظمة الترجمة:

وحدة البحث في تكنولوجيات المعلومات و الإتصال بجامعة تونس

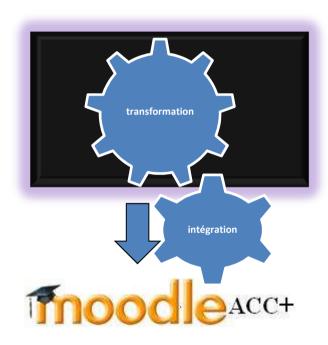
المدرسة العليا للعلوم والتقنيات بتونس

5 شارع طه حسين، ص.ب 56 باب منارة 1008

لجمهورية التونسية

# Accessible e-learning platforms (Moodle Acc+)

- Integrating leraners accessibility preferences
- Making controls and displays accessible
- Importing/exporting learners accessibility experience



#### Accessible e-content for DEAF

#### WebSign

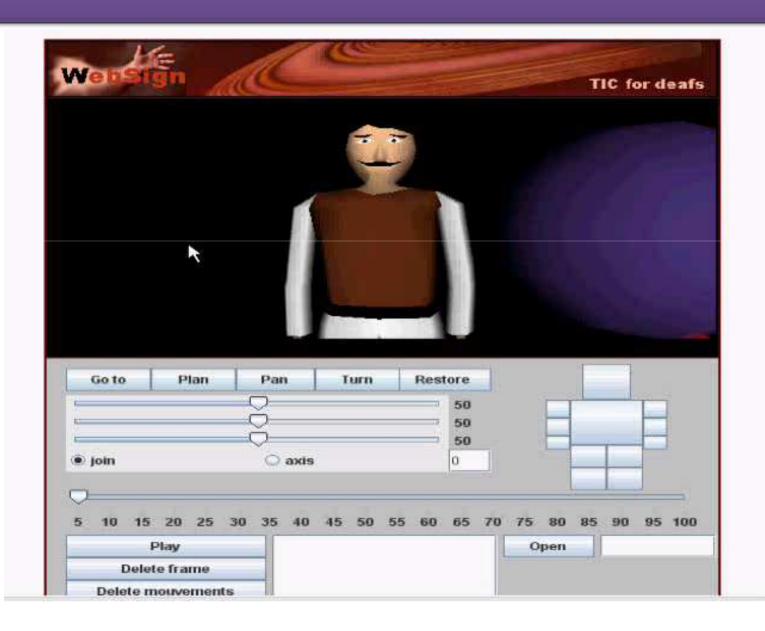
- Allow communication with deaf people using sign language via the web and internet.
- Automatic translation of written text to sign language.
- Development of avatar based system.



#### **Demonstration**



#### Our approach

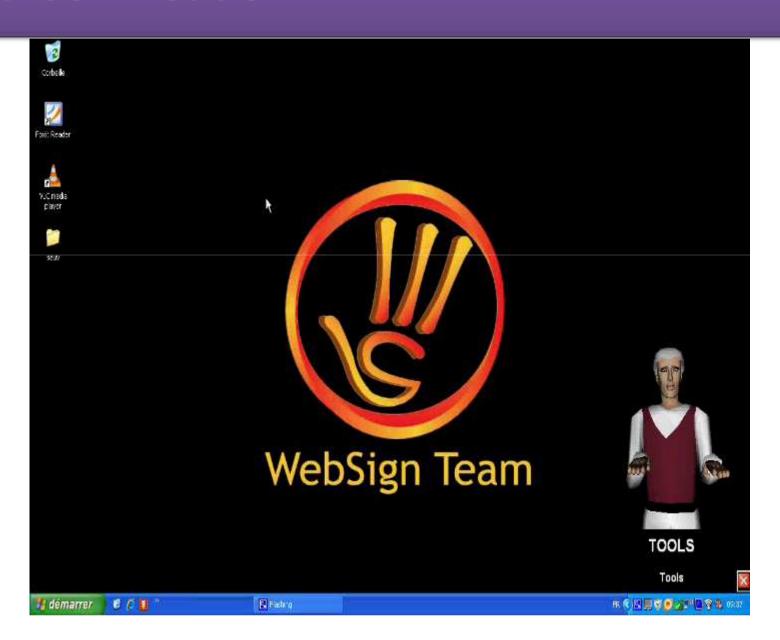


Some WebSign based applications

#### Courses generator for deaf children

#### **Demonstration**

#### Screen Reader



### MMS Sign - To make mobile phones accessible for deaf



#### **DEMONSTRATION**



### Thank you

#### **Professor Mohamed Jemni**

Head of the Research Laboratory UTIC

University of Tunis -Tunisia

Mohamed.jemni@fst.rnu.tn

www.utic.rnu.tn