



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

EXECUTIVE BOARD
111th Session
Provisional agenda item 9.2

EB111/37
8 January 2003

Awards, including the Proposal from the State of Kuwait to establish an award

PROPOSAL

1. The State of Kuwait has generously proposed an endowment of US\$ 1 000 000 for the institution of an award within the framework of WHO.
2. The award is proposed to be given annually, from interest accrued on the capital sum, to persons who have contributed to research in the area of health promotion.
3. The State of Kuwait further proposed that the award should be governed by the same statutes as those applying to the United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Prize, i.e. a foundation would be established with funds provided by the Government of Kuwait to award “the State of Kuwait Prize for Research in Health Promotion”.

BACKGROUND

4. WHO administers 12 foundation prizes, grants and fellowships (see Annex). The Director-General is the administrator of these foundation prizes, grants and fellowships, except for three which are administered by regional offices.
5. These foundations have been generally founded by, or in memory of, eminent health personalities. The Darling Foundation Prize and Léon Bernard Foundation Prize are both a legacy of the League of Nations, whereas the others have been created since the establishment of WHO. Although the Darling Foundation and the Jacques Parisot Foundation are administered by the Director-General, they were both established under the laws of Switzerland.
6. With the exception of the Francesco Pocchiari Fellowship, the procedure for the award of prizes is similar. Any national health authority or a previous laureate can nominate a candidate for a prize. For each award, there is a committee and/or selection panel, usually consisting of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairmen, and an additional member of the Board, and/or a representative designated by the founder.
7. The usual procedure is for the committees to recommend one or more candidates to the Board, which makes the final selection. The prizes are formally awarded to the laureates during the Health

Assembly or, in the case of awards that have been transferred to the regions, during the sessions of the Regional Committee.

8. The management cost related to the administration and award of foundation prizes, grants and fellowships has been a cause of concern for the Board, which has reviewed the matter on several occasions, namely at its eighty-ninth (1992), ninety-fifth (1995) and 100th (1997) sessions. After these reviews and revision of the statutes of the respective foundations, changes aimed at reducing administrative costs and making the awards more cost effective have been introduced. They include a reduction of periodicity of two awards, the transfer of administrative responsibility for three awards to the regional offices concerned, an assessment of 13% programme support costs for two awards, and the replacement of the foundation committees by selection panels for five awards. Certain administrative procedures have also been modified in order to simplify the paper work involved. None the less, the Board at its 103rd session again expressed concern at the cost of managing the awards.

ACTION BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

9. The Board is invited to consider the proposal of the State of Kuwait to establish an award for research in the area of health promotion.

10. Should the Board approve in principle the establishment of an award, the proposed Statutes would be drafted in cooperation with the State of Kuwait and submitted for approval of the Board, together with recommendations for covering the administrative costs incurred with respect to such an award.

11. Should the Board feel that further study of the administration of foundation prizes and fellowships should be made, a report on the issue would be submitted to the Board.

ANNEX

Award	Membership of committee/selection panel and secretary	Selection made by	Amount, frequency and method of award
<p>Darling Foundation Prize for outstanding achievements in the pathology, etiology, epidemiology, therapy, prophylaxis or control of malaria</p> <p>Established: 1948 in WHO, but earlier in the League of Nations</p> <p>Capital: Sw.fr. 10 000</p>	<p>Foundation Committee: Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Executive Board and the Chairman of the Expert Committee on Malaria</p> <p>Secretary: Director-General</p>	<p>Executive Board</p>	<p>Sw.fr. 2500 and a bronze medal, awarded when the interest amounts to a sufficient sum</p> <p>Ceremony at Health Assembly</p>
<p>Leon Bernard Foundation Prize for outstanding service in the field of social medicine</p> <p>Established: 1948</p> <p>Capital: Sw.fr. 19 000</p>	<p>Foundation Committee: Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Executive Board and a member of the Board</p> <p>Secretary: Director-General</p>	<p>Executive Board</p>	<p>Sw.fr. 2500 and a bronze medal, awarded when the interest amounts to a sufficient sum (in practice biennially, in odd years)</p> <p>Ceremony at Health Assembly</p>
<p>Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Prize for the most significant contribution to any health problem in the geographical area in which Dr A.T. Shousha served the World Health Organization</p> <p>Established: 1966</p> <p>Capital: US\$ 60 816 Prize and Fellowship</p>	<p>Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean and the Chairman of the Regional Committee Technical Discussions</p> <p>Secretary: Regional Director for the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region</p>	<p>Executive Board</p>	<p>Sw.fr. 2500 and a bronze medal, awarded when the interest amounts to a sufficient sum (in practice every year)</p> <p>Ceremony at the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean</p>

Award	Membership of committee/selection panel and secretary	Selection made by	Amount, frequency and method of award
<p>Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Fellowship to enable the fellow to obtain a post-graduate diploma or a master's degree in public health</p> <p>Established: 1966</p>	As for Prize	Executive Board	<p>US\$ 15 000, awarded whenever accumulated interest in excess of that required for the award of the Prize is sufficient (in principle approximately every six years)</p> <p>Letter to laureate</p>
<p>Jacques Pariset Foundation Fellowship for research in social medicine or public health</p> <p>Established: 1969</p> <p>Capital: Sw.fr. 100 000</p>	<p>Foundation Committee: Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Executive Board and a member of the Board</p> <p>Selection Panel: Chairman of the Executive Board and a member of the Foundation Committee</p> <p>Secretary: Director-General</p>	Executive Board	<p>US\$ 5000 and a bronze medal, awarded every two years (even years) (regional offices are invited in turn to submit candidatures)</p> <p>Letter to laureate. The following year, the laureate is invited to present the results of his/her research before the Health Assembly and to receive the medal</p>
<p>Ihsan Dogramaci Family Health Foundation Prize for service in the field of family health</p> <p>Established: 1980</p> <p>Capital: US\$ 400 000 Prize and Fellowship</p>	<p>Selection Panel: Chairman of the Executive Board, the President Bilkent University, Turkey, or his appointee, and a representative of the International Children's Center (Ankara)</p> <p>Secretary: Director-General</p>	Executive Board	<p>A gold-plated silver medal, a certificate and US\$ 20 000, awarded every two years (even years)</p> <p>Ceremony at Health Assembly</p>
<p>Ihsan Dogramaci Family Health Foundation Fellowship for research in family health</p> <p>Established: 1980</p>	As for Prize	Executive Board	A certificate and amount of US\$ 20 000 every two years (odd years)

Award	Membership of committee/selection panel and secretary	Selection made by	Amount, frequency and method of award
<p>Sasakawa Health Prize for innovative work in health development, in order to encourage the further development of such work</p> <p>Established: 1984</p> <p>Capital: US\$ 1 million (invested by Sasakawa Memorial Health Foundation)</p>	<p>Chairman and a member of the Executive Board and a representative appointed by the Founder</p> <p>(Technical assessment by Secretariat)</p> <p>Secretary: Director-General</p>	<p>Executive Board</p>	<p>US\$ 100 000, awarded annually in principle (generally shared between two or three individuals and/or institutions) and a statuette. The exact sum of money for each laureate is determined by the Prize Selection Panel</p> <p>Support costs assessed (13% of award) to help cover cost of administration</p> <p>Ceremony at Health Assembly</p>
<p>Dr Comlan A.A. Quenum Prize for Public Health in Africa for the most significant contribution to any health problem in the geographical area in which Dr Quenum served the World Health Organization</p> <p>Established: 1987</p> <p>Capital: CFA 1 400 000</p>	<p>Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Programme Sub-Committee of the Regional Committee, two representatives of the African Advisory Committee for Health Development, and the Regional Director of Africa</p> <p>Secretary: Regional Director for the WHO African Region</p>	<p>Programme Sub-Committee of the Regional Committee for Africa. In case of non-agreement on choice of candidate, the matter is referred to the Regional Committee for Africa for decision</p>	<p>US\$ 2000 (which may be adjusted upwards from time to time by the Prize Committee) and a medal, awarded every two years (odd years)</p> <p>Ceremony at Health Assembly. Change of venue has been proposed to the Regional Office for Africa</p>
<p>Francesco Pocchiari Fellowship to enable researchers from developing countries to visit other countries in order to obtain new experience relevant to their own research</p> <p>Established: 1991</p> <p>Capital: US\$ 104 960</p>	<p>Fellowship Committee: Director of the Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome, and four members of the Global ACHR, selected by the ACHR Chairman</p> <p>Meeting takes place during the ACHR meeting</p> <p>Secretary: Director-General</p>	<p>Executive Board</p>	<p>Awarded every two years (odd years) for one or two travelling fellowships, if accumulated interest allows.</p> <p>US\$ 10 000 per researcher</p> <p>Letter to laureate. Name announced at a public meeting of Health Assembly</p>

Award	Membership of committee/selection panel and secretary	Selection made by	Amount, frequency and method of award
<p>United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Prize for outstanding contribution to health development</p> <p>Established: 1994</p> <p>Capital: US\$ 1 million</p>	<p>Selection Panel: Chairman of the Executive Board, a member of the Board, and a representative appointed by the Founder</p> <p>Secretary: Director-General</p>	<p>Executive Board</p>	<p>A certificate and a plaque, and a sum of money not exceeding US\$ 40 000, awarded when the interest amounts to a sufficient sum (in practice every year)</p> <p>Support costs assessed (13% of award) to help cover cost of administration</p> <p>Ceremony at Health Assembly</p>
<p>Down's Syndrome Research Prize Foundation in the Eastern Mediterranean Region for research in Down's syndrome</p> <p>Established: 1999</p> <p>Capital: US\$ 50 000</p>	<p>Foundation committee: Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean, the Chairman of the Regional Committee Technical Discussions, and a representative of the Founder</p> <p>Secretary: Regional Director of the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region</p>	<p>Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean</p>	<p>A prize comprising of a bronze medal, and a cash sum, awarded once every two years, funds permitting, from the accumulated interest on the Foundation's capital</p> <p>A grant, funds permitting, from the interest accumulated on the Foundation's capital</p> <p>Ceremony at the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean</p>