

Awards

1. Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Prize – Report of the Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Committee

The Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Prize is awarded to a person having made the most significant contribution to any health problem in the geographical area in which Dr A.T. Shousha served WHO, namely, the Eastern Mediterranean Region.

During the sixtieth session of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean (Muscat, Oman, 27–30 October 2013), the Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Committee met on 29 October 2013, chaired by His Excellency Dr Ahmed bin Mohamed bin Obaid Al Saidi, Minister of Health, Oman (Chairperson of the Regional Committee).

The Committee reviewed nominations from Egypt, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Lebanon.

The Committee members studied the curricula vitae and the backgrounds of the three candidates and recommended that the candidate from Lebanon, Professor Abba Mehio Sibai, be selected as the person to be proposed to the Executive Board at its 134th session as the recipient of the Prize.

If the Board confirms the award, the laureate will receive the equivalent of 2500 Swiss francs in United States dollars.

Professor Abba Mehio Sibai is being honoured for her significant contribution to public health in Lebanon, particularly in the areas of ageing and noncommunicable diseases. Professor Sibai graduated from the American University of Beirut with a BSc in pharmacy in 1977 and with an MSc in epidemiology in 1986. In 1997, she was awarded a PhD in epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, with special interest in ageing and noncommunicable diseases.

Professor Sibai has had an extensive academic career and has served as Chair of the Department of Epidemiology and Population Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut. Professor Sibai's research has focused on the welfare and conditions of older populations in Lebanon and the Eastern Mediterranean Region. She is the founder of Lebanon's Center for Studies on Aging, which aims to promote evidence-based policy and practice in support of older populations.

Professor Sibai is the recipient of numerous national and international awards and has published more than 100 articles in scientific journals and other publications. She has served on various expert committees and advisory panels at national, regional and global levels. Professor Sibai is currently a member of the World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on Ageing and the WHO Technical working group on knowledge translation on ageing and health.

2. Jacques Parisot Foundation Fellowship – Report of the Jacques Parisot Selection Panel

The Jacques Parisot Foundation Selection Panel met on 21 January 2014 under the chairmanship of Professor Jane Halton (Australia), Chair of the Executive Board. The other member of the Panel present at the meeting was Dr Mohsen Asadi-Lari (Islamic Republic of Iran), Vice-Chairman of the Executive Board.

According to the established order of nomination of candidates, which was determined by the drawing of lots when the Jacques Parisot Foundation Fellowship was created, it was the turn of the South-East Asia Region to submit candidatures for the Fellowship award.

The Panel reviewed the one shortlisted candidate put forward by the Regional Committee for South-East Asia and decided to propose to the Executive Board that the Seventeenth Jacques Parisot Foundation Fellowship should be awarded to Dr Htin Zaw Soe (Myanmar). If the Board confirms the award, the laureate will receive a medal and US\$ 5000.

Dr Htin Zaw Soe proposes to undertake a research project on “Pilot Studies on Newly Developed Botanical Larvicides and Repellents against Aedes Mosquitoes in Myanmar”. The general objective of this project is to develop innovative environmentally-friendly vector control tools for the control of dengue haemorrhagic fever. The Panel has received confirmation from Dr Htin Zaw Soe that he will be assisted by a traditional medicine expert and a laboratory expert in the performance of his research project.

3. Ihsan Doğramacı Family Health Foundation Prize – Report of the Ihsan Doğramacı Family Health Foundation Selection Panel

The Ihsan Doğramacı Family Health Foundation Prize is awarded to a person or persons

globally recognized for his/her/their service in the field of family health.

The Ihsan Doğramacı Family Health Foundation Selection Panel met on 22 January 2014 under the chairmanship of Professor Jane Halton (Australia), Chair of the Executive Board. The other Panel members were Professor Phyllis Erdogan, appointee of Professor A. Doğramacı (the President of Bilkent University) and Professor Tomris Turmen, representing the International Children’s Center (Ankara).

The Panel members studied the curricula vitae and the backgrounds of the five candidates, together with the Administrator’s technical comments on the candidatures. The Panel, bearing in mind the Statutes and guidelines governing the award of the Prize, unanimously decided to propose to the Executive Board that the 2014 Prize be awarded to Professor Zulfiqar Bhutta (Pakistan).

If the Board confirms the award, the laureate will receive US\$ 20 000.

The candidate has been at the centre of much of the global work on child and newborn survival and health for a number of years, and has been a driving force in improving maternal and child health in his own country. His main focus has been on the development and implementation of evidence-based interventions, through numerous publications in peer-reviewed journals (notably *The Lancet*’s series on child survival, newborn survival and community based newborn care), as well as active involvement in several global initiatives, including as co-chair of Countdown to 2015 and member of

the WHO independent Expert Review Group, providing oversight and monitoring progress towards Millennium Development Goals 4 (Reduce child mortality) and 5 (Improve maternal health). In his own country, he has been a leading force for maternal and child health through his work with the lady health workers programme of the Government of Pakistan and most recently as Founding Director of the Centre of Excellence in Women and Child Health, Aga Khan University.

4. Sasakawa Health Prize – Report of the Sasakawa Health Prize Selection Panel

The Sasakawa Health Prize is awarded to a person or persons, an institution or institutions, or a nongovernmental organization or organizations having accomplished outstanding innovative work in health development, such as the promotion of given health programmes or notable advances in primary health care, in order to encourage the further development of such work.

The Sasakawa Health Prize Selection Panel met on 22 January 2014, chaired by Professor Jane Halton (Australia), Chair of the Executive Board. The other Panel members were Mr Jeon Man-bok, member of the Executive Board for the Republic of Korea, and Professor Hiroyoshi Endo, representing the Founder of the Prize.

The Panel members studied the curricula vitae and the backgrounds of the eight candidates, together with the Administrator's technical comments on the candidatures. The Panel, bearing in mind the Statutes and guidelines governing the award of the Prize, unanimously decided to propose to the Executive Board that the 2014 Prize should be awarded to the Leprosy Control Foundation, Inc./Dominican Institute of Dermatology and Skin Surgery "Dr Hubert Bogaert Diaz" (Dominican Republic).

If the Board confirms the award, the laureate, as an organization, will receive US\$ 40 000.

A brief description of the work carried out by the proposed laureate is given below for the consideration of the Executive Board.

The Institute, established in 1963, aims to work towards eliminating leprosy and the main forms of dermatosis in the Dominican Republic, and to provide integrated specialized care for dermatological and sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS. The Institute has developed ethical programmes in the areas of research, education, screening, care and treatment of diseases, as well as primary care strategies for dermatology in rural and urban areas. Its innovative approach to the treatment of leprosy has greatly contributed to the reduction of the rates of incidence of leprosy. During its 50 years of existence, the Institute has treated over 13 000 patients, of whom more than 9 000 are fully cured, thanks to early case detection, suitable treatment, including multidrug therapy, as recommended by WHO, and educational campaigns. Decentralized community participation has reduced the cost of patient care and promoted local decision-making and the empowerment of caregivers.

The Institute proposes to use the prize money to fund a project entitled "Abrazo Solidario" (Embrace of Solidarity), whose main purpose is to improve and expand the existing paediatric programme to extend coverage to children affected by other skin diseases. The project aims to reduce treatment gaps for affected children, including those related to medicines supply, and provide protective clothing against ultraviolet rays, as well as psychological support to patients and their families and friends.

5. United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Prize – Report of the United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Selection Panel

The United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Prize is awarded to a person or persons, an institution or institutions, or a nongovernmental organization or organizations having made an outstanding contribution to health development.

The United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Selection Panel met on 21 January 2014, chaired by Professor Jane Halton (Australia), Chair of the Executive Board. The other Panel members present were Dr Ziad Ahmad Memish, member of the Executive Board for Saudi Arabia, and Dr Mohammad Salim Al Olama, representing the Founder of the Prize.

The Panel members studied the curricula vitae and the backgrounds of the six candidates, together with the Administrator's technical comments on the candidatures. Bearing in mind the Statutes and guidelines governing the award of the Prize, the Panel unanimously decided to propose to the Executive Board that the United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Prize for 2014 be awarded to the Institute for Research in Health (INISA) (Costa Rica).

If the Board confirms the award, the laureate will receive US\$ 20 000.

National Institute for Health Research (INISA) of the University of Costa Rica, is attached to the Faculties of Pharmacy, Medicine, Microbiology and Odontology of the University of Costa Rica. Its mission is to help to promote and maintain human health through scientific research, education and outreach in a comprehensive and ethical framework. The Institute was created in 1975 as a multidisciplinary academic unit dedicated to scientific research in the fields of individual and collective ageing, genetic and infectious diseases, early detection and diagnosis of gastric cancer, which has a high prevalence in Costa Rica, and genotoxic damage from occupational exposure to pesticides. It has achieved a notable reduction in infant mortality thanks to the discovery of a plasmid for ampicillin-resistant strains of *Shigella dysenteriae* and its transmission to *Escherichia coli*, and the creation of milk banks in urban and rural areas. It has also designed strategic communication initiatives to improve the eating habits of Costa Ricans.

6. Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health – Report of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel

The Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health is awarded to a person or persons, an institution or institutions, a governmental or nongovernmental organization or organizations, who have made an outstanding contribution in public health.

The Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel met on 21 January 2014, chaired by Professor Jane Halton (Australia), Chair of the Executive Board. The other Panel members were Mr Pascoe Kase, member of the Executive Board for Papua New Guinea, and Dr David Sir, Representative of the Founder.

The Panel members studied the curricula vitae and the backgrounds of the eight candidates, and decided unanimously to propose to the Executive Board that the 2014 Prize should be awarded jointly to Professor Sinata Koulla-Shiro (Cameroon) and the Czech Society of Cardiology (Czech Republic).

If the Board confirms the award, the laureates will each receive US\$ 50 000.

A brief description of the work carried out by the proposed laureates is given below for the consideration of the Executive Board.

Professor Sinata Koulla-Shiro is currently the Secretary General of Cameroon Ministry of Public Health, and is Professor of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases at the University of Yaoundé and consultant in infectious diseases at Yaounde Central Hospital. She specialized in internal medicine at the University of Geneva, focusing particularly on infectious diseases and medical bacteriology. Professor Koulla-Shiro has extensive experience in the conduct of clinical trials, and is the author of more than 75 publications on communicable diseases and clinical microbiology in bacterial infections, HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases in peer-reviewed journals. She has directed or co-directed many medical and scientific and third cycle doctoral dissertations. Professor Koualla-Shiro has made numerous presentations and has also been a panel moderator at numerous national and international scientific conferences and scientific workshops.

Among her achievements, Professor Koulla-Shiro coordinated and implemented the first strategic plan for HIV/AIDS control in Cameroon and led negotiations with pharmaceutical companies for access to antiretroviral medicines in Cameroon through the ACCESS programme, and with Indian companies to obtain generic medicines. She also lead a research team that studied the efficacy, tolerance and use of the first combination of three generic antiretroviral medicines introduced in Cameroon. The publication of this study contributed to the scaling up of this therapy in developing countries.

The Czech Society of Cardiology, established in 1929, is one of the oldest cardiology societies in Europe. It organized the first international congress of cardiology in 1933 and publishes the scientific journal *Cor et Vasa*. The Society carries out research for the continuous improvement of standards for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular diseases and designs guidelines to improve the use of evidence-based therapies. The Czech Society of Cardiology organizes congresses, symposia and teaching courses for young physicians. The Society provides grant support to young researchers and awards prizes for the best research.

The Czech Society of Cardiology pioneered the revolutionary change in the treatment of acute myocardial infarction. In 2002, it published the first guidelines that declared primary (direct) coronary angioplasty to be the preferred treatment for acute myocardial infarction even if the patient required transport for up to 100 kilometres.

In 2008, members of the Czech Society of Cardiology contributed to the foundation of the pan-European Stent for Life Initiative. Thanks to the Society's activities, hundreds of thousands of patients worldwide survive acute myocardial infarctions and many can resume an active life.

= = =