

Foundation committees and selection panels

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 sixty-sixth session of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean (Tehran, 14–17 October 2019), the Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Committee met on 15 October, chaired by His Excellency Dr Saeed Namaki, Minister of Health and Medical Education, Islamic Republic of Iran (Chairperson of the Regional Committee).

The Committee reviewed nominations from Egypt, Kuwait, Palestine and Syrian Arab Republic.

The Committee members considered the nominations of the four candidates and decided not to award the Prize for 2020.

2. 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 or their service in the field of family health. The Ihsan Doğramacı Family Health Foundation Selection Panel met on 3 February 2020 to consider the nominations of the five candidates, together with the Administrator's technical comments on the candidatures.

The Panel decided unanimously to propose to the Executive Board that the 2020 Prize should be awarded to Dr Errol R. Alden (United States of America). If the Board confirms the award, the laureate will receive US\$ 20 000.

Dr Alden was nominated for being a pioneer and a visionary, focused on disease prevention and the promotion of child health and development. Throughout his career as a clinician, he has been devoted to advancing the health and well-being of children in developing countries around the world. He developed and implemented programmes such as the Neonatal Resuscitation Program and Helping Babies Breathe. These programmes have trained thousands of health care professionals and have helped to save the lives of millions of children worldwide. In 1999, Dr Alden received the World Leader in Pediatrics award from the International Society of Tropical Pediatrics, in recognition of his contribution to the science of paediatrics and his service to the cause of children.

As President of the International Pediatric Association, Dr Alden is now addressing two major issues affecting children globally: immunization hesitancy and displacement of children as a result of disasters. Vaccine hesitancy has made the resurgence of many diseases possible. Dr Alden has led and

supported the Association's international efforts on vaccination and their endeavours to educate vaccination-hesitant parents, particularly those influenced by false data. By continually focusing on the science and working with individuals dealing with people with autism, the Association has been able to focus on the actual causes of autism and the safety of vaccines.

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

The Sasakawa Health Prize is awarded for outstanding innovative work in health development to a person or persons, an institution or institutions, or a nongovernmental organization or organizations. Such work includes the promotion of given health programmes or notable advances in primary health care.

The Sasakawa Health Prize Selection Panel met on 3 February 2020 to consider the nominations of the six candidates, together with the Administrator's technical comments on the candidatures.

The Panel decided unanimously to propose to the Executive Board that the 2020 Prize should be awarded to Geo-RIS (Sistema Geoespacial de las Redes Integradas de Salud, (Geospacial System of Integrated Health Networks)), Dirección General de Aseguramiento e Intercambio Prestacional del Ministerio de Salud (Peru). If the Board confirms the award, the laureate will receive US\$ 30 000. As Geo-RIS is a programme, and not a natural person or legal entity, the prize will be formally awarded to the Ministry of Health of Peru.

Geo-RIS, under the leadership of Dr Gelberth John Stamp, was designed in 2018 to promote the reorganization of health services for primary health care and to provide a computer tool to automate processing of demographic and geo-referenced information. The program provides health sector managers with information on health indicators relevant to their geographical region, which improves public health decision-making. The e-platform integrates various publicly available data sources, such as population size and density, health indicators, availability of human resources, service centres and characteristics of health service institutions.

4. 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 for an outstanding contribution to health development to a person or persons, an institution or institutions, or a nongovernmental organization or organizations.

The United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Selection Panel met on 3 February 2020 to consider the nominations of the 10 candidates, together with the Administrator's technical comments on the candidatures.

The Panel decided unanimously to propose to the Executive Board that the United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Prize for 2020 should be awarded to Ms Xi Jin (China). Should the Board confirm the award, the laureate will receive US\$ 20 000.

Ms Jin is an expert in women's and children's health. Her research has been translated into national policies that have an impact in all the regions of China. She has had a catalytic leadership role in national programmatic efforts to advance the health and development of women and children, particularly in establishing the National Centre for Women and Children's Health. Her efforts have contributed to increased efficiency and management of health systems, within an overall framework of

primary health care. A number of relevant training packages have been developed under Ms Jin's leadership. She has stimulated the generation of a significant body of research related to maternal and child health; of note is the formulation of a research framework on maternal and child health institutional standards, all within a primary health care-focused system.

5. 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 to public health.

The Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel met on 4 February 2020 to consider the nominations of the 11 candidates, together with the Administrator's technical comments on the candidatures.

The Panel decided unanimously to propose to the Executive Board that the 2020 Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health should be awarded to two nominees: Dr João Aprigio Guerra de Almeida (Brazil) and The Sick Cell Disease Consortium (United Republic of Tanzania). If the Board confirms the award, each laureate will receive US\$ 50 000. As The Sick Cell Disease Consortium is not a natural person or legal entity, the Prize will be formally awarded to Dr Julie Makani, in her capacity as representative of The Sick Cell Disease Consortium.

Dr João Aprigio Guerra de Almeida coordinates the Brazilian Network of Human Milk Banks and has been involved in promoting breastfeeding for decades in Brazil and many other countries, contributing efficiently to this important global public health issue. Since 1981, he has championed social mobilization to promote the use of donated human milk for infants clinically unable to be breastfed directly by their mothers. He is considered the driving force behind the largest and most complex network of human milk banks in the world, namely the Brazilian Network of Human Milk Banks, which has 224 human milk banks and 215 collection centres for human milk in operation throughout the country. The positive impact on maternal and child health made by the Brazilian Network of Human Milk Banks has led to the establishment of the Global Network of Human Milk Banks, whose membership comprises most Latin American nations as well as Angola, Cape Verde, Mozambique, Portugal and Spain. In recognition of the leadership of Dr Guerra de Almeida, in 2018 the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs awarded him with the rank of Commander, a title granted to individuals who stand out for their social, economic or political influence.

The Sick Cell Disease Consortium provides an academic and scientific environment with experience and expertise in cross-cutting skills and knowledge that serves as a platform for the professional development of clinicians and scientists who are working to combat sickle cell disease. Dr Julie Makani is the Principal Investigator for the Sick Cell Disease programme at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences. The Sick Cell Disease programme has demonstrated high capacity in translating research into innovative health policies and clinical practices, and has been an enabling force for developing health care in resource-limited settings. This programme has also illustrated that effective global partnerships can build a critical mass of individuals and lead to significant advances in health and biomedical science in the area of public and family health. The Sick Cell Disease programme works closely with patient and advocacy groups including the Sick Cell Disease Patients Community, Sick Cell Foundation of Tanzania, Sick Cell Youth Foundation and the Tanzania Sick Cell Disease Alliance.

6. His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah Prize for Research in Health Care for the Elderly and in Health Promotion – Report of the State of Kuwait Health Promotion Foundation Selection Panel

His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah Prize for Research in Health Care for the Elderly and in Health Promotion is awarded to a person or persons, institution or institutions, or a nongovernmental organization or organizations having made an outstanding contribution to research in the areas of health care for the elderly and in health promotion.

The State of Kuwait Health Promotion Foundation Selection Panel met on 4 February 2020 to consider the nominations of the eight candidates, together with the Administrator's technical comments on the candidatures.

The Panel decided unanimously to propose to the Executive Board that His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah Prize for Research in Health Care for the Elderly and in Health Promotion for 2020 be awarded to Professor Gunhild Waldemar (Denmark). Should the Board confirm the award, the laureate will receive US\$ 20 000.

Professor Gunhild Waldemar is a certified neurologist and a well-established researcher. Throughout her career, she has contributed substantially to research in health care for older adults, including in the areas of dementia diagnosis, inappropriate use of opioids and antipsychotics in older adults with dementia, the effect of early psychosocial counselling and support and the effect of exercise in people diagnosed with Alzheimer disease. She has actively contributed to the advancement of health care and quality of life of people with dementia through the development and implementation of different programmes and policy related activities. For example, in 2007 she established the Danish Dementia Research Centre, which she chairs. Professor Waldemar has supported the development of the dementia national action plans and has headed the development and launch of three successful initiatives: (i) a new low-cost model for dementia-friendly hospitals; (ii) a "national tool-box" for use by primary care staff when counselling and teaching patients and their caregivers about dementia; and (iii) a new tool for the early identification of cognitive impairment and dementia for primary care physicians.

7. Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion – Report of the Nelson Mandela Award Selection Panel

The Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion is awarded to a person or persons, an institution or institutions, a governmental or nongovernmental organization or organizations, who or which has/have made a significant contribution to health promotion.

The Nelson Mandela Award Selection Panel met on 5 February 2020 to consider the nominations of the 12 candidates, together with the Administrator's technical comments on the candidatures.

The Panel decided unanimously to propose to the Executive Board that the 2020 Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion should be awarded to two nominees: The Equi-Sastipen-Roma Network (Spain) and Professor Dame Sally Davies (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland). Should the Board confirm the award, each laureate will receive a plaque. As the Equi-Sastipen-Roma Network is not a natural person or a legal entity, the award will be formally awarded to the Network's coordinating organization, the Asociación Gitana UNGA.

The Equi-Sastipen-Roma Network comprises 21 Sinti and Roma associations that liaise with various governmental agencies in Spain with the objective of developing health promotion interventions, fostering social inclusion and preserving Roma identity. The Network serves as a useful tool to facilitate access to health and social services and to promote health equity in the Roma population. Other areas of work include training in intercultural competence for health professionals (including health care and social workers) to improve practice and increase awareness of the Roma population. In addition, the Network aims at increasing awareness about health issues that affect the Roma population and to address these issues through cooperative activities that improve the trust between Roma communities and health administrations and services. The participants of the Network exchange experiences and discuss their public health approaches and their shared vision for health.

Professor Dame Sally Davies has until recently been the Chief Medical Officer of the United Kingdom and a key advocate for health promotion in the United Kingdom and globally. Dame Sally's impact on health promotion has been profound. At the heart of her efforts lies a desire to improve the quality of the public's health regardless of their financial means or location, tackling the root causes of illness through education, research and preventive action. She was pivotal in launching noncommunicable disease risk prevention strategies, and legal and fiscal measures. These include a nationwide sugar levy, standardized tobacco packaging, a smoking ban in cars with children as well as cross-governmental programmes to ensure access to sports and exercise facilities. She is a global leader in combating antimicrobial resistance. At the request of the United Nations Secretary General, she co-convened the United Nations Interagency Coordination Group on Antimicrobial Resistance and has since been providing solutions and supporting reform, governance and accountability on a global scale.

= = =