

Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion

Revised draft statutes of the Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion

PROPOSAL

1. The Executive Board, at its 144th session, decided to establish the Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion and approved the draft statutes as well as the proposed streamlined measures to be applied for the first bestowing of the Award in 2019.¹
2. At the Seventy-second World Health Assembly, the President of the Assembly informed plenary that it had not been feasible to complete all the steps called for by the streamlined procedures due to time constraints.
3. It was also noted that the mechanism put in place for bestowing the Award would benefit from further consideration in order to give the Award the full significance and importance deserved by an award established in recognition of Mr Nelson Mandela's legacy in the field of health. The Secretariat was therefore requested to review the statutes of the Award and to submit to the Executive Board a proposal to broaden the Award Selection Panel.
4. In light of the above, the first delivery of the Award was postponed to the Seventy-third World Health Assembly in May 2020.²
5. The Secretariat, following consultations, hereby proposes that a representative of the Nelson Mandela Foundation be invited to attend meetings of the Award Selection Panel as an observer.
6. Revised draft statutes of the Award, to reflect the aforementioned observer arrangement, are attached in the Annex.

¹ Document EB144/40 Add.1; see also document EB144/2019/REC/2, summary records of the seventeenth meeting, section 1.

² Seventy-second World Health Assembly, sixth plenary meeting.

BACKGROUND

7. The Director-General is the administrator of 12 foundation prizes and fellowships.¹
8. These foundations have been generally established by, or in memory of, eminent health personalities. The Léon Bernard Foundation Prize is a legacy of the League of Nations, whereas the others have been created since the establishment of WHO.
9. 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 three members, including the Chairperson of the Executive Board.
10. The usual procedure is for the committees or panels to recommend one or more candidates to the Executive Board, which makes the final selection; the prizes are formally awarded to the laureates during the Health Assembly or during sessions of regional committees.

ACTION BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

11. The Board is invited to consider the following draft decision:

The Executive Board, having considered the proposal contained in document EB146/45, decided to approve the revised draft statutes of the Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion that are annexed thereto.

¹ Awards (see <https://www.who.int/governance/awards/en/>, accessed 13 December 2019).

ANNEX

**DRAFT STATUTES OF THE NELSON MANDELA AWARD
FOR HEALTH PROMOTION***Article 1 – Establishment*

Under the title of the “Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion”, an award is established within the framework of the World Health Organization, which shall be governed by the following provisions.

Article 2 – The Founder

The award is established upon the initiative of the Ministers of Health of Member States of the African Region.

Article 3 – Award

1. The Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion shall be given 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.
2. The award aims to reward work that has extended far beyond the call of normal duties, and it is not intended as a reward for excellent performance of duties normally expected of an official occupying a government position or of a governmental or nongovernmental institution.
3. In recognition of the humility of Nelson Mandela, the award given to each laureate shall be a plaque. The award shall be given annually.
4. The award shall be presented during the Health Assembly to the laureate(s) or, in their absence, to a person(s) representing them.

Article 4 – Proposal and selection of candidates

1. Any national health administration of a Member State of the World Health Organization, or any former recipient of the award, may put forward the name of a candidate for the award. The nomination must be accompanied by a written statement of the reasons for proposing the candidate. The same candidature may be submitted several times if unsuccessful.
2. Proposals shall be submitted to the Administrator, who shall submit them to the Award Selection Panel.
3. Current and former staff members of the World Health Organization and current members of the Executive Board shall be ineligible to receive the award.

Article 5 – Award Selection Panel

1. The Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion Selection Panel (“the Award Selection Panel”) shall consist of the Chairperson and the first Vice-Chairperson of the Executive Board, and of a member elected by the Executive Board from among its members from the African Region for a period not exceeding his or her term of office on the Executive Board. A representative of the Nelson Mandela Foundation shall be invited to attend meetings of the Award Selection Panel as an observer.
2. The presence of three members of the Award Selection Panel shall be required for the taking of decisions. The Panel shall take decisions by a majority of its members.

Article 6 – Proposal of the Award Selection Panel

The Award Selection Panel, in a private meeting, shall consider the candidates for the award, and shall propose the name(s) of the recipient(s) of the award to the Executive Board. The proposal shall be considered by the Executive Board, which shall decide who or which organization(s) the recipient(s) of the award shall be.

Article 7 – The Administrator

1. The Director-General of the World Health Organization shall be the Administrator of the award, and shall act as the Secretary of the Award Selection Panel.
2. The Administrator shall be responsible for:
 - (a) the execution of the decisions taken by the Award Selection Panel within the limits of its powers, as defined in these Statutes;
 - (b) the observance of the present Statutes and, generally, the administration of the award in accordance with the present Statutes.

Article 8 – Revision of the Statutes

On the proposal of one of its members, the Award Selection Panel may propose the revision of the present Statutes. Any such proposal, if endorsed by a majority of its members, shall be submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

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