

## Awards

1. At its 150th session, in January 2022, the Executive Board adopted a number of decisions awarding prizes to individuals or entities in recognition of their outstanding contributions to public health development.<sup>1</sup>

2. An award ceremony for the following six prizes is scheduled to take place during the plenary meeting of the Seventy-fifth World Health Assembly on Friday, 27 May 2022:

the **Ihsan Doğramacı Family Health Foundation Prize** will be presented to **Professor Mehmet Haberal (Turkey)**;

the **Sasakawa Health Prize** will be presented to **Dr Paisan Ruamviboonsuk (Thailand)**;

the **United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Prize** will be presented to **the National Malaria Component of the Ministry for Citizen's Power for Health of Nicaragua, with support from the community network of voluntary collaborators (CoVol) (Nicaragua)**;

the State of Kuwait Health Promotion Foundation's **His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah Prize for Research in Health Care for the Elderly and in Health Promotion** will be presented to **Dr Hanadi Khamis Mubarak Al Hamad (Qatar)**;

the **Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health** will be presented to **Professor Prakit Vathesatogkit (Thailand)** and the **Severe Hypothermia Treatment Centre (Poland)**; and

the **Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion** will be presented to **Dr Wu Zunyou (China)**.

3. Many of the prizes have been established by, or set up in memory of, an eminent health personality or an individual with a legacy in the field of health. The call for nominations of candidates for each prize is sent out each year after closure of the Health Assembly session, and nominations can be made by national health administrations of a Member State of WHO and by any former recipient of the prizes. The recipients of the prizes are designated by the Executive Board during its first annual session, on the basis of recommendations made by the selection panel for each prize.

4. Over the years, the prizes have been awarded to a wide range of recipients: well-known scientists and researchers; other dedicated individuals or entities who have greatly contributed through their work to the advancement of public health; and to institutions caring for the health of local communities.

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<sup>1</sup> See decisions EB150(17), EB150(18), EB150(19), EB150(20), EB150(21) and EB150(22) (2022).

5. Further information on the prizes and on the 2022 recipients is provided in Annex 1 to the present document.<sup>1</sup>

6. At its meeting on 24 January 2022, the Ihsan Doğramacı Family Health Foundation Selection Panel decided to revise the Statutes of the Foundation. In accordance with Article 8 of the Statutes of the Foundation, the revision is transmitted to the Health Assembly for information (see Annex 2).

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<sup>1</sup> See also the information on awards on the WHO website (<https://apps.who.int/gb/awards/>, accessed 27 April 2022).

## ANNEX 1

**PRIZES AWARDED IN 2022****1. Ihsan Doğramacı Family Health Foundation Prize**

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 2022 laureate of the prize is **Professor Mehmet Haberal (Turkey)**.

Professor Haberal, the Founder and President of Başkent University in Ankara, Turkey, is also the Founder and President of the Institute of Transplantation and Gene Sciences and Chair of the Division of Transplantation at Başkent University, and the recipient of multiple global distinctions and awards. Professor Haberal is a pioneer in the field of general surgery, organ transplantation and burn treatment in Turkey and in the world, having practised since 1975. He has promoted essential ethical standards, including advocating a clear legal framework for organ transplantation, and he has adopted a gradual and culturally sensitive approach that takes into account the local context. In order to help to meet the demand for organs, he has tirelessly raised awareness of the importance of organ transplantation and enhanced its social acceptability through a holistic approach to family and community health, in particular with families of patients with terminal conditions and with religious leaders. He has also shown extraordinary commitment to family health and the principle of health for all in the Declaration of Alma-Ata of 1978, by promoting gender equity and prioritizing for organ transplantation children with no alternative treatment options. Professor Haberal has led a remarkable research agenda and has approximately 2000 publications. His leadership in health and innovation and his active collaboration with regional and global institutions have led to the establishment of numerous organ transplantation centres and the training of many young physicians and health workers working in this field. By 2015, there were 45 liver transplantation centres in Turkey.

**2. Sasakawa Health Prize**

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 work includes the promotion of given health programmes or notable advances in primary health care.

The 2022 laureate of the prize is **Dr Paisan Ruamviboonsuk (Thailand)**.

Dr Ruamviboonsuk is an ophthalmologist specializing in retinal eye care at Rajavithi Hospital, the largest tertiary care hospital under the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand. Over the past 25 years, Dr Ruamviboonsuk has focused on addressing what was the second leading cause of blindness in Thailand, diabetic retinopathy. Dr Ruamviboonsuk has developed a special method to screen for the condition, by grading retinal photographs. He has piloted an initiative to allow trained non-ophthalmological personnel to use this method and become increasingly able to detect retinopathies everywhere in Thailand, including in the most remote areas. This is particularly important given the shortage of ophthalmologists and the high percentage of retinopathies that are not detected at the early stages. Dr Ruamviboonsuk has gathered evidence to demonstrate the effectiveness of this strategy in detecting diabetic retinopathy and the improved efficiency of the use of existing health system capacity. Dr

Ruamviboonsuk's work has led to the endorsement of screening for diabetic retinopathy as a nationwide programme under the Ministry of Public Health's umbrella, free of charge for all. The resulting steep reduction in the number of patients that develop blindness as a result of diabetes has led to diabetic retinopathy no longer being the second leading cause of blindness in Thailand. Dr Ruamviboonsuk is committed to continuing to explore the use of innovative technologies to improve the health of patients.

### 3. United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Prize

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 2022 laureate of the prize is the **National Malaria Component of the Ministry for Citizen's Power for Health of Nicaragua, with support from the community network of voluntary collaborators (ColVol) (Nicaragua).**

The National Malaria Component, Ministry for Citizen's Power for Health, supported by ColVol, has played a key role in the implementation of Nicaragua's national programme of malaria control, in support of the Ministry of Health, for over 50 years. The collaborators in ColVol act as community health workers with a specific focus on the surveillance, diagnosis and treatment of malaria in the municipality of Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua. They also perform a crucial role in public awareness of and community engagement in malaria control. They help to advance equity by reaching remote and ethnically diverse communities with essential services. In 2020, they were able to fulfill their roles as part of the malaria control programme in the aftermath of two tropical storms, which severely impacted the ability of community health centres to provide services. The work of the National Malaria Component, Ministry for Citizen's Power for Health, supported by ColVol, is a tribute to the power of community-based services for the benefit of the local population. This collaboration has the potential to be replicated beyond its specific setting and towards the goal of universal health coverage. While community health workers have played an important role in supporting malaria surveillance and treatment follow-up in many regions of the world, the additional involvement of ColVol in malaria diagnosis and public awareness in Puerto Cabezas has been remarkable. The essential work of the National Malaria Component, Ministry for Citizen's Power for Health, supported by ColVol, has allowed the burden of disease due to malaria to be reduced in the communities it serves.

### 4. The State of Kuwait Health Promotion Foundation's His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah Prize for Research in Health Care for the Elderly and in Health Promotion

The State of Kuwait Health Promotion Foundation's 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, an institution or institutions, or a nongovernmental organization or organizations who have made an outstanding contribution to research in the areas of health care for the elderly and in health promotion.

The 2022 laureate of the prize is **Dr Hanadi Khamis Mubarak Al Hamad (Qatar).**

Dr Hanadi Al Hamad is the Chairperson of Geriatrics and Long-Term Care at the Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar, and the Medical Director of Rumailah Hospital, Qatar, and the Qatar Rehabilitation Institute. She is the National Lead for the Healthy Ageing priority area at the Ministry of Public Health of Qatar. Dr Hanadi Al Hamad has achieved remarkable results in improving the care of older patients

in Qatar. Through her leadership roles within different leading medical institutions, Dr Hanadi Al Hamad has vastly expanded the reach, timeliness, range and quality of services provided to patients. She has spearheaded the development of innovative programmes such as geriatric virtual clinics for older people and an urgent day-care unit. In her capacity as National Lead for Healthy Ageing, she has driven the following: a 20% increase in bed capacity in long-term care; the integration of mobile health services and home-care services; the setting up of a webpage for older people with information about healthy ageing; the establishment of community rehabilitation services; and the expansion of memory clinic services at the primary care level. Beyond her clinical work, Dr Hanadi Al Hamad also leads an impressive research agenda that aims to optimize and continue to improve the treatment of older patients in the country. Dr Hanadi Al Hamad is also involved in awareness raising and capacity-building activities that have, for example, helped to increase awareness of dementia in the country and resulted in more people seeking care.

## 5. Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health

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.

There are two laureates for the 2022 Prize: **Professor Prakit Vathesatogkit (Thailand) and the Severe Hypothermia Treatment Centre (Poland).**

**Professor Prakit Vathesatogkit** has served as Executive Secretary of the Action on Smoking and Health Foundation since 1986 and is a member of the National Committee for the Control of Tobacco Use, at the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand. He is also the former Dean of the Ramathibodi Hospital of the Mahidol University, Bangkok. He has served in multiple advisory roles at the national and regional levels, and in the context of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. Professor Vathesatogkit's lifelong ambition has been to reduce the prevalence of lung cancer in Thailand, a country where, when his career started, 60% of men smoked and only 1 in 20 lung cancers were diagnosed. He has devoted his career to tobacco control, resulting not only in improved treatment and care protocols for patients with lung cancer and other lung diseases, but also in an impressive array of tobacco control measures, including tobacco taxes and restrictions on tobacco advertising and sports sponsorship. Professor Vathesatogkit has been a pioneer in advocating these essential measures and a champion who empowers others to take action. He has worked across sectors, engaging the general public, and developing and empowering networks, including in the education and sports sectors. Professor Vathesatogkit has successfully assisted countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and beyond in their efforts to put effective tobacco control measures in place.

**The Severe Hypothermia Treatment Centre**, which is run by the John Paul II Hospital in Cracow, Poland, was the first centre dedicated to treating hypothermic patients in the country. It has collaborated closely with similar entities across the world to develop an original and innovative approach. This approach focuses on improving the survival of extreme hypothermia cases, through the standardization of diagnosis and treatment, using, among other things, extracorporeal membrane oxygenation technology and extracorporeal rewarming. The Centre has developed a number of cutting-edge innovations, including software and a mobile phone application to guide first-responder crews, and thermometers able to assess the core temperature of a hypothermic patient in the very early stage of rescue and treatment. The Centre's outreach efforts towards first-responder crews have substantially improved the crews' knowledge and capacity, resulting in improved chances of survival for hypothermic patients. This approach is further strengthened by e-learning courses offered to nurses and doctors. It also includes a social awareness component regarding those at risk of hypothermia, especially those in

situations of homelessness or poverty. The holistic approach developed by the Centre has the potential to further the understanding and successful treatment of severe hypothermia globally.

## **6. Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion**

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 2022 laureate of the prize is **Dr Wu Zunyou (China)**.

Dr Wu is the Chief Epidemiologist of the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention. His achievements in health promotion throughout a 30-year career in the field of HIV prevention are outstanding. Dr Wu has designed innovative evidence-based policies targeting each group that is most vulnerable to HIV. He was a pioneer in designing, piloting and scaling up outreach programmes to increase condom use among sex workers, as well as testing for sexually transmitted infections and setting up HIV-awareness information campaigns, reaching approximately 800 000 female sex workers. He established China's first needle-exchange programme and its first large-scale opioid replacement treatment for 40 000 and 700 000 drug users, respectively. The impact of these measures has been significant: today, drug users represent 1% of all HIV infections in China, while in 2004, they represented half. Additionally, Dr Wu has introduced universal testing and antiretroviral therapy among HIV-infected men who have sex with men. These measures have helped to decrease the number of new HIV infections in 20 cities in China where infections had been rising steeply. Dr Wu's work has resulted in HIV testing becoming a crucial prevention tool among all key groups, with about 300 million tests having been carried out in China in 2020. Dr Wu's recommendations on outreach interventions for several vulnerable groups have become national policy. His work has been recognized in China and globally for his profound dedication, determination, accomplishments and innovation. Building on his vast experience and credibility as a leading science communicator, Dr Wu has leveraged technology and the media to become the most influential coronavirus disease (COVID-19) health promotion specialist of his country, reaching an estimated 1.4 billion people in China and beyond.

## ANNEX 2

**AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES OF THE  
IHSAN DOĞRAMACI FAMILY HEALTH FOUNDATION<sup>1</sup>**

Previous	Amended
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Article 6</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Administration</i></p> <p>The Foundation shall be administrated by its Administrator, namely the Director-General of the World Health Organization. The Administrator shall implement the decisions of the Foundation Selection Panel, consisting of the Chairman of the Executive Board, the President of Bilkent University, Turkey, or the President's appointee and a representative of the International Children's Center (Ankara) appointed by its Bureau. The presence of all members of the Panel shall be required for the taking of decisions.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Article 6</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Administration</i></p> <p>The Foundation shall be administrated by its Administrator, namely the Director-General of the World Health Organization. The Administrator shall implement the decisions of the Foundation Selection Panel, consisting of the Chairman of the Executive Board, the <del>President of Bilkent University, Turkey, or the President's appointee</del> <u>Chair of the Board of Trustees of Bilkent University, Turkey, or the Chair's appointee</u> and a representative of the International Children's Center (Ankara) appointed by its Bureau. The presence of all members of the Panel shall be required for the taking of decisions.</p>

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<sup>1</sup> Deletions are shown in strikethrough, new text is underlined.