Award of the State of Kuwait Prize for the Control of Cancer, Cardiovascular Diseases and Diabetes in the Eastern Mediterranean Region
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The Foundation for the State of Kuwait Prize for the Control of Cancer, Cardiovascular Diseases and Diabetes in the Eastern Mediterranean was established in 2003. The prize will be awarded for the first time during the Fifty-fourth Session of the Regional Committee. Following the recommendations of the Foundation Committee, the Regional Committee at its Fifty-third Session decided to award the prize for 2007, in the area of diabetes, to both Professor Fereidoun Azizi (Islamic Republic of Iran) and Professor Kamel Ajlouni (Jordan) in view of their equally high level of experience and achievements in this field.

Professor Fereidoun Azizi is being honoured for his significant contribution in the field of diabetes. Professor Azizi graduated in medicine from Teheran University in 1966. He is at present Professor of Internal Medicine and Endocrinology and Director of the Endocrine Research Centre at Shaheed Beheshti University of Medical Sciences. He is head of the National Diabetes Committee and Regional Coordinator for the International Council for Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders for the Middle East and North Africa. Professor Azizi is editor and co-author of a textbook on Epidemiology and Control of Common Disorders in Iran and a member of several regional and international advisory panels on diabetes, noncommunicable diseases and nutrition. He has published numerous articles in international journals as well as in Farsi.

Professor Kamel Ajlouni is being honoured for his significant contribution in the field of diabetes. Professor Ajlouni graduated in medicine from the University of Heidelberg in 1968. He is at present Professor of Medicine–Endocrinology at the University of Jordan. Professor Ajlouni is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and of the American College of Endocrinology and President of the National Center for Diabetes, Endocrinology and Genetics. He has published numerous articles and abstracts in international and national journals, as well as books and training manuals.

The Foundation Committee for the State of Kuwait Prize for the Control of Cancer, Cardiovascular Diseases and Diabetes in the Eastern Mediterranean is also scheduled to meet during the Fifty-fourth Session of the Regional Committee to consider nominations for the prize for 2008 which will be in the field of cardiovascular diseases. In accordance with the Statues, the Committee shall be composed of the following members: the Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean and the Chairman of its Technical Discussions, as well as a representative of the Founder. The WHO Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean acts as Administrator of the Foundation as well as Secretary of the Foundation Committee.