

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 fifty-ninth session of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean (Cairo, 1–4 October 2012), the Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Committee met on 1 October 2012, chaired by His Excellency Dr Bahar Idris Abu Garda, Federal Minister of Health, Sudan (Chairperson of the Regional Committee).

The Committee reviewed nominations from the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq.

The Committee members studied the curricula vitae and the background of the five candidates and recommended that the candidate from the Islamic Republic of Iran, Dr Mohammad-Reza Mohammadi, be selected as the person to be proposed to the Executive Board at its 132nd 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.

Dr Mohammad-Reza Mohammadi is being honoured for his significant contribution to public health in the Islamic Republic of Iran, particularly in the area of child and adolescent psychiatry. Dr Mohammadi graduated in medicine from Isfahan University in 1981, and subsequently studied at the Institute of Psychiatry, University of London in the United Kingdom, graduating as a specialist (M.Phil) in child and adolescent psychiatry in 1997.

Dr Mohammadi has had a successful academic career and has held several responsible positions, including Head of the State Welfare Organization. At present, he is Head of the Psychiatry and Psychology Research Centre, Tehran University of Medical Sciences and Health Services, and Chief Editor of the Iranian Journal of Psychiatry. Dr Mohammadi has been a key proponent of community-based rehabilitation in the Islamic Republic of Iran, supporting the integration of related programmes into the national health system. Among his major achievements in public health is the establishment of the Social Welfare and Rehabilitation Science University in 1992. Dr Mohammadi is the recipient of numerous national awards and honours and is the author of over 150 articles in scientific journals and more than 20 books.

2. Léon Bernard Foundation Prize – Report of the Léon Bernard Foundation Committee

The Léon Bernard Foundation Committee met on 23 January 2013, chaired by Dr Joy St. John (Barbados), Chairman of the Executive Board. The other members of the Committee present at the meeting were Professor Rajko Ostojić, member of the Executive Board for Croatia, Dr Ren Minghui and Dr Ahmed Jamsheed Mohamed, both Vice-Chairmen of the Board.

The Panel members carefully studied the curricula vitae and the background of the three candidates, together with the Administrator's technical comments on the candidatures. The Panel, bearing in mind the Statutes governing the award of the Prize, decided to propose to the Executive Board that the 2013 Prize should be awarded to Dr Teng Shuzhong (China).

If the Board confirms the award, the laureate will receive 2500 Swiss francs.

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

Dr Teng Shuzhong, Director of the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, Fenghuang County, is being honoured for the significant contribution he has made to health training and health-care services in the region of Fenghuang, Hunan Province, China.

Among Dr Teng Shuzhong's important achievements are his efforts to stem the typhoid outbreak and the epidemic that followed in the 1980s and 1990s in the Fenghuang County. He presided over the formulation of the *Work Plan of the Fenghuang County for the Prevention and Treatment of Typhoid Fever*, and organized the epidemiological surveys and necessary public health actions to bring the epidemic under control. As a result of his efforts, the incidence rate of typhoid fever in the area is at its lowest level ever.

Dr Teng Shuzhong has led many public health survey and research programmes in the region, and has strengthened the testing capacity of the Fenghuang County's Center of Disease Control and Prevention. Dr Teng Shuzhong has also organized the training of over 1000 medical and technical health staff in disease prevention.

The Committee expressed the view that it would be useful to develop criteria or guidelines to be applied by the Committee in its assessment of the work done by candidates for the Léon Bernard Foundation Prize. It requested the Secretariat to propose draft criteria or guidelines for consideration by the Committee at its next meeting.

The Committee also expressed its concern about the current financial situation of the Foundation and recommended that consideration be given to mobilizing additional resources to ensure the continuation of the award.

Amendments to the Statutes of the Léon Bernard Foundation

In accordance with the provisions of Article 8 of the Statutes, the Committee decided to revise Article 2 of the Statutes of the Léon Bernard Foundation in order to replace the term "social medicine", which does not reflect current medical usage, with "primary health care". The text of Article 2 now reads as follows:

Article 2

*The Léon Bernard Foundation Committee shall, in accordance with the deed of Foundation and the present Statutes, propose to the Executive Board the award of the prize to be known as the “Léon Bernard Foundation Prize”, to be given to a person having accomplished outstanding service in the field of ~~social medicine~~ **primary health care**. The prize shall be presented during a meeting of the World Health Assembly to the recipient or, in his absence, to a person representing him.*

This revision will be transmitted for information to the Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly.

3. 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 2013, chaired by Dr Joy St. John (Barbados), Chairman of the Executive Board. The other Panel members were Dr Udval Natsag, member of the Executive Board for Mongolia, and Professor K. Kiikuni, representing the Founder of the Prize.

The Panel members studied the curricula vitae and the background of the nine 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 2013 Prize should be awarded to Professor No-Yai Park (Republic of Korea).

If the Board confirms the award, the laureate, as an individual, will receive US\$ 30 000.

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

Professor No-Yai Park has been instrumental in improving the quality of public health centres and health staff education, particularly in the area of maternal and child care nursing in the Republic of Korea, where she is revered as the “mother of public health”. The first of many teaching manuals published by Professor Park, “The practice job guideline of public health nursing”, was based on her grassroots-level experiences, working with disadvantaged people in local settings at different levels in the health sector. She also designed the “Field management training programme” to improve the theoretical and practical expertise of medical personnel in public centres, as well as a community health level survey system, which enables local communities to collect statistical information, diagnose their needs and establish local public health care plans, according to local priorities.

Professor Park will use the prize money to fund a project that will further strengthen the public health sector of the Republic of Korea and that of other countries in the region. The project will involve research in the development of new public health policies and infrastructures and training programmes for community health staff. This project will also benefit various developing countries in the region, with which she is already cooperating, to exchange information and reinforce training of personnel in these countries.

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 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 22 January 2013, chaired by Dr Joy St. John (Barbados), Chairman of the Executive Board. The other Panel members present were Dr Jamal Thabet Nasher, member of the Executive Board for Yemen, and Mr Rashed Al Shamsi, representing the Founder of the Prize.

The Panel members studied the curricula vitae and the background of the four 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 2013 be awarded to Dr Laila Ali Akbar Bastaki (Kuwait).

If the Board confirms the award, the laureate will receive US\$ 15 000.

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

Dr Laila Bastaki is being honoured for her outstanding contribution to the research and management of genetic disorders, and the increased delivery of health services in her country. Her achievements include the re-establishment of the neonatal screening programme, the metabolic genetic and neuromuscular genetic registry units in Kuwait. Through her studies and collaboration with genetic research centres in the United States of America and Europe, she has established various protocols covering the most common genetic disorders in Kuwait, which have led to the discovery of three new genes.

The Panel expressed the view that it would be useful to revise the financing mechanism of the United Arab Emirates Health Foundation Prize. It requested the Secretariat to work with representatives of the Founder to prepare a proposal for consideration by the Foundation Selection Panel at its next meeting, with a view to submitting any proposed revision of the Statutes to the Executive Board at its next session.

5. State of Kuwait Prize for Research in Health Promotion – Report of the State of Kuwait Health Promotion Foundation Selection Panel

The State of Kuwait Prize for Research in Health Promotion is awarded to a person or persons, an institution or institutions, or a nongovernmental organization or organizations having made an outstanding contribution to research in health promotion.

The State of Kuwait Health Promotion Foundation Selection Panel met on 23 January 2013 chaired by Dr Joy St. John (Barbados), Chairman of the Executive Board. Other Panel members present were Dr Saleh Ali Al-Marri member of the Executive Board for Qatar, and Mr Haider S.H.Y.A. Abulhasan, representing the Founder of the Prize.

The Panel members studied the *curricula vitae* and the background of the five 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 State of Kuwait Prize for Research in Health Promotion for 2013 be awarded to Dr Guiqi Wang (China).

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

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

Dr Wang is being honoured for his significant contribution to early detection and treatment of oesophageal cancer, one of the most common forms of cancer in China, particularly in high-risk rural areas. Dr Wang and his colleagues have provided training courses for local and voluntary health professionals. 2100 health professionals from 28 provinces have been trained in endoscopy, pathology, epidemiology, and treatment for early oesophageal cancer. This increased screening capacity has optimized the primary health care system for cancer prevention and control in rural areas, including for the disadvantaged population. Dr Wang recommends an integrated strategy to cover cancer control and chronic disease screening, and the involvement of communities in planning, management, and evaluation of health promotion in the control of chronic disease.

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 22 January 2013, chaired by Dr Joy St. John (Barbados), Chairman of the Executive Board. The other Panel members were Mr Pascoe Kase, member of the Executive Board for Papua New Guinea, and Ms Hyun Kyong Kim, Representative of the Founder.

The Panel members studied the *curricula vitae* and the background of the nine candidates, and decided unanimously to propose to the Executive Board that the 2013 Prize should be awarded jointly to Dr An Dong (China) and the Diabetes Society of Maldives.

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.

Dr An Dong is nominated for his dedication and outstanding contribution made to public health in the Province of Ghizhou, China.

Dr An Dong has dedicated nearly 30 years of his career to the prevention and control of endemic fluorosis disease of coal-burning pollution type, in the Province of Guizhou in southwestern China. The disease is incurable but preventable, and is caused by burning coal in open stoves without smoke extraction facilities. Indoor air and foods are polluted by the fluorine-containing soot

discharged during the coal burning process. The population is subject to chronic fluoride poisoning due to the excessive ingestion of fluoride.

Dr An Dong's efforts have been instrumental in establishing the causes of disease and ensuring that prevention strategies were adopted. Among the many achievements which have reduced arsenic exposure are the shutting of coal mines producing high arsenic discharging coal and the improvement of 98.72% of stoves in the Bijie area.

The Diabetes Society of Maldives, founded in 2000, is being honoured for its success in creating public awareness on diabetes, making health promotion interventions for the prevention of diabetes and other noncommunicable diseases in the Maldives, and for the training of local staff to offer counselling and eventual treatment.

Since its establishment, the Diabetes Society of Maldives has successfully run a diabetes clinic, offering free consultations. It has launched various initiatives such as the network, "My Sweet Family", for type 1 children to meet and discuss their concerns with a counsellor, and the "Save a Diabetic Child" initiative that provides sponsorship for children to receive medical care and diabetes education.

The Diabetes Society of Maldives runs regular screening and awareness programmes to evaluate the prevalence of diabetes and other noncommunicable diseases, and also runs training programmes for health staff in the Maldives. The Society also conducted the clinical part of the NCD Risk Factor Survey (STEPS) between 2003 and 2004 in collaboration with the Ministry of Health.

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