



**Regional Committee for the
Eastern Mediterranean**

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Agenda item 17

Award of the Down Syndrome research prize

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The Down Syndrome Research Prize was established in 1999. Following the recommendations of the Down Syndrome Research Prize Committee at the Fifty-fourth Session of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean, the Regional Committee decided to award the prize for 2008 to Dr Gholam Ali Afrooz (Islamic Republic of Iran) for having successfully achieved all the qualifying factors necessary to be awarded the prize.

Dr Gholam Ali Afrooz is being honoured for his significant and extensive research in the field of Down Syndrome. Dr Afrooz has a PhD in Psychology and Education of Exceptional Children from Michigan State University and has received a number of distinguished awards. He is at present Dean of the Faculty of Psychology and Education at Teheran University. Dr Afrooz has published more than 150 articles in international and national journals and more than 40 books on the special needs of children with Down Syndrome and other physical and mental disabilities.

At the Fifty-fifth Session of the Regional Committee it will be the pleasant task of the Chairman to present this prize to Dr Gholam Ali Afrooz.