
Award of the Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Prize and Fellowship

1. Following the recommendations of the Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Committee at the Sixty-fourth Session of the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean, the Executive Board awarded the Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Prize for 2018, by decision EB142(12), to Dr Assad Hafeez (Pakistan) for his significant contribution to public health in the geographical area in which Dr Shousha served WHO.
2. Dr Hafeez is being honoured for his significant contribution to public health in Pakistan. Dr Hafeez graduated from the Army Medical College, Quaid-e-Azam University, in 1987. He received his Masters in epidemiology from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in 2003. In 2009 he was awarded a PhD in Public Health from the University of Manchester.
3. Dr Hafeez is currently Director-General Health, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination. Over the past 25 years, he has played a leading role in the development of the health sector in Pakistan through his extensive experience in the public health sector, international organizations and civil society. He managed one of the largest programmes for community health workers worldwide and was instrumental in the development and launch of Pakistan's flagship national health insurance programme in 2015. As Director-General Health, he has spearheaded several prominent national initiatives such as the development of key health strategies and evaluation of the national health system and devolution policy.
4. An accomplished paediatrician, Dr Hafeez has held several academic posts in national and international institutions. At present he is Executive Director and Dean of the Health Services Academy and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Quaid-e-Azam University. He has served on a number of expert committees and technical boards at national, regional and global levels and has published many articles in scientific journals and other publications.
5. The 2018 Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Prize, consisting of a medal and equivalent of 2500 Swiss francs in United States dollars, will be presented to Dr Assad Hafeez by the Chairman of the Sixty-fifth Session of the Regional Committee.
6. The Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Committee is also scheduled to meet during the Sixty-fifth Session of the Regional Committee to consider nominations for the prize and fellowship for 2019. In accordance with the Statutes, the Committee shall be composed of the following members: the Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen of the Regional Committee.
7. The Director-General of the World Health Organization acts as Administrator of the Foundation and the Regional Director acts as Secretary of the Foundation Committee.