
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 Fifty-eighth Session of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean, the Executive Board awarded the Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Prize for 2012, by decision EB130 (9), to Dr Shaikha Salim Al Arrayed (Bahrain) for her significant contribution to public health in the geographical area in which Dr Shousha served the World Health Organization.
2. Dr Shaikha Salim Al Arrayed is being honoured for her significant contribution to public health in Bahrain, in particular the control of genetic diseases. Dr Al Arrayed graduated in medicine (MBChB) from the University of Cairo in 1974, and subsequently studied at London University and at Aberdeen University in Scotland, United Kingdom, where she obtained a PhD in genetics in 1993.
3. Dr Al Arrayed is Chair of the Genetics Department, Salmaniya Medical Complex, Manama, Bahrain. After establishing a genetics clinic in Salmaniya Medical Complex in 1984, she spearheaded a decades-long campaign aimed at reducing the incidence of hereditary diseases in Bahrain and improving the management of patients with these diseases. This campaign had an important impact in reducing the prevalence of genetic diseases in Bahrain. Moreover, Dr Al Arrayed contributed significantly to regional initiatives on the prevention of genetic diseases. Dr Al Arrayed is the recipient of several international awards and prizes for achievements in genetics and hereditary disease, and has published over 60 articles in the field. She is a member of the WHO Expert Advisory Panel on Human Genetics and has membership in numerous international professional societies. She is also a founding member of the Bahrain Hereditary Anemia Society, Bahrain Child Development Society and Bahrain Down Syndrome Society.
4. The 2012 Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Prize, consisting of a medal and equivalent of CHF 2500 in United States dollars, will be presented to Dr Al Arrayed by the Chairman of the Fifty-ninth Session of the Regional Committee.
5. The Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Committee is also scheduled to meet during the Fifty-ninth Session of the Regional Committee to consider nominations for the prize and fellowship for 2013. In accordance with the Statutes, 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.
6. 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.