
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 Sixtieth Session of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean, the Executive Board awarded the Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Prize for 2014, by decision EB134(8), to Professor Abla Mehio Sibai (Lebanon) for her significant contribution to public health in the geographical area in which Dr Shousha served the World Health Organization.
2. Dr Abla Mehio Sebai is being honoured for her significant contribution to public health in Lebanon, in particular in the areas of ageing and noncommunicable diseases. Dr Sebai graduated from the American University of Beirut with a BSc in pharmacy in 1977 and with an MSc in epidemiology in 1986. In 1997, she was awarded a PhD in epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, with special interest in ageing and noncommunicable diseases.
3. Dr Sebai has had an extensive academic career and has served as Chair of the Department of Epidemiology and Population Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut. Her research has focused on the welfare and conditions of older populations in Lebanon and the Region. She is the founder of Lebanon's Center for Studies on Ageing, which aims at promoting evidence-based policy and practice in support of older populations.
4. Dr Sebai is the recipient of numerous national and international awards and has published more than 100 articles in scientific journals and other publications. She has served on various expert committees and advisory panels at national, regional and global levels. Dr Sebai is currently a member of the World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on Ageing and the WHO Expert Group on Knowledge Translation on Ageing and Health.
5. The 2014 Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Prize, consisting of a medal and equivalent of CHF 2500 in United States dollars, will be presented to Professor Sibai by the Chair of the Sixty-first Session of the Regional Committee.
6. The Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Committee is also scheduled to meet during the Sixty-first Session of the Regional Committee to consider nominations for the prize and fellowship for 2015. In accordance with the Statutes, the Committee shall be composed of the following members: the Chair and two Vice-Chairs of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean and the Chair of its Technical Discussions.
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.