
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-first 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 2015, by decision EB136(7), to Dr Yagoub Yousef Al Mazrou (Saudi Arabia) for his significant contribution to public health in the geographical area in which Dr Shousha served WHO.
2. Dr Yagob Yousef Al Mazrou is being honoured for his significant contribution to public health in Saudi Arabia. Following his early career as a general practitioner and paediatrician, Dr Al Mazrou served with the Ministry of Health, Saudi Arabia, as Director-General with responsibility for health centres and subsequently for hospitals. During this time (1983-1993) he was instrumental in developing primary health care in Saudi Arabia, overseeing a major expansion in the network of health centres, and improvements in child immunization coverage as well as in the health security of pilgrims. Throughout his career, Dr Al Mazrou has made major contributions to the epidemiology of infectious diseases and continues to be active in health care development.
3. Dr Al Mazrou graduated from Mosul Medical College in 1971 and obtained a Diploma in Child Health from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Ireland, in 1977. He received a PhD from City University London in 1992, and from 1993 to 2009 served as Assistant Deputy Minister of Health. A Fellow of the Royal College of General Practitioners, Dr Al Mazrou has received several national and international awards and published more than 100 articles in scientific journals and other publications. He has served on WHO Expert Committees and advisory panels at regional and global levels.
4. The 2015 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 Mazrou by the Chairman of the Sixty-second Session of the Regional Committee.
5. The Dr A.T. Shousha Foundation Committee is also scheduled to meet during the Sixty-second Session of the Regional Committee to consider nominations for the prize and fellowship for 2016. In accordance with the Statutes, the Committee shall be composed of the following members: the Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen of the Regional Committee 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.