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## Award of the State of Kuwait Prize for the Control of Cancer, Cardiovascular Diseases and Diabetes in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

- 1. The Foundation for the State of Kuwait Prize for the Control of Cancer, Cardiovascular Diseases and Diabetes in the Eastern Mediterranean Region was established in 2003. The Regional Committee at its 66th session in October 2019, based on the recommendation of the Foundation Committee, decided to award the prize for 2019 to: Dr Sulafa Khalid Mohamed Ali (Sudan) in the area of cardiovascular diseases. The Prize will be presented to the laureate during the 67th session of the Regional Committee in 2020.
- 2. Dr Sulafa Ali is being honoured for her significant contribution in the field of cardiovascular diseases. Dr Ali graduated from the University of Khartoum in 1989 and obtained Membership of the Royal College of Physicians (Paediatrics) from the United Kingdom in 1995. In 2004 she became a consultant paediatric cardiologist, and then a professor, at the University of Khartoum.
- 3. Dr Ali is a pioneer of paediatric cardiology in Sudan and established the Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship Program at the Sudan Medical Specialization Board in 2012. In the same year, she developed a Rheumatic Heart Disease Control Program in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Health. Dr Ali has successfully raised funds and utilized research grants to conduct rheumatic heart disease control projects in several states in rural Sudan. Dr Ali is a member of several national and international scientific committees, including the WHO Expert Committee on Rheumatic Heart Disease. She is the founder and chairperson of the Sudanese Children's Heart Society, a charity that aims to support children with heart disease, as well as Sudan's Rheumatic Heart Disease Control Program. She has published numerous articles in local and international medical journals.