

# THE SULTAN QABOOS PRIZE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION

## STATUTES

### **1. Purpose**

The purpose of the Prize is to afford recognition to outstanding contributions by individuals, groups of individuals, institutes or organizations in the management or preservation of the environment, consistent with the policies, aims and objectives of UNESCO, and in relation to the Organization's programmes in this field, i.e. environmental and natural resources research, environmental education and training, creation of environmental awareness through the preparation of environmental information materials and activities aimed at establishing and managing protected areas such as biosphere reserves and natural world heritage sites.

### **2. Name and value of the Prize**

The Prize, which shall consist of a certificate and a sum of money, shall be called the "Sultan Qaboos Prize for Environmental Preservation". The value of the Prize or prizes awarded in any one year shall be set, in accordance with the Financial Regulations, by the Bureau of the International Coordinating Council of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB).

### **3. Periodicity**

The Prize shall be presented biennially by the Director-General at a public ceremony to be held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, preferably in conjunction with the General Conference.

### **4. Selection of the prizewinners**

The selection of individuals, groups of individuals, institutes or organizations to whom prizes will be awarded shall be made by the Bureau of the MAB International Coordinating Council. The Bureau may adopt its own rules of procedure for the selection of prizewinners. The decisions of the Jury should normally be taken unanimously; if the Jury does not reach unanimity in favour of any of the candidates submitted, it should take its decision by a majority of the members present. It should consult, as appropriate, the bureaux of the intergovernmental bodies responsible for the implementation of other UNESCO programmes in the field of natural resources and the environment (i.e. the Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP), the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and the Bureau of the World Heritage Convention).

### **5. Eligibility**

The prizes are open to individuals, groups of individuals, institutes or organizations displaying outstanding merit and achieving particularly effective results in the field of environmental preservation.

### **6. Nomination of candidates**

Candidates for the Prize shall be proposed to the Director-General of UNESCO by governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, by intergovernmental organizations or by appropriate non-governmental organizations which have consultative status with UNESCO, each of which may make one nomination in any biennium.

Nominations for the Prize shall be accompanied by a biographical statement for each candidate or group of candidates, together with a detailed description of the work for which the candidature is put forward and an assessment of the results achieved.

## **7. Criteria**

- (a) Individuals, groups of individuals, institutes or organizations receiving the Prize must have made an outstanding contribution to the management or preservation of the environment, particularly in one of the following fields:
  - (i) environmental and natural resources research;
  - (ii) environmental education and training;
  - (iii) creation of environmental awareness through the preparation of environmental information materials;
  - (iv) establishing and managing protected areas such as biosphere reserves and natural world heritage sites.
- (b) The Prize shall be awarded irrespective of any consideration of nationality, race, sex, language, profession, ideology or religion of the individual or individuals concerned. It may be awarded only once to any individual, group of individuals, institute or organization.
- (c) Serving members of the Bureau of the MAB International Coordinating Council or of any other bureaux consulted in the selection procedure may not be considered for the Prize.

**FINANCIAL REGULATIONS OF THE SPECIAL ACCOUNT  
FOR THE SULTAN QABOOS PRIZE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL  
PRESERVATION**

**1. Creation of the Special Account**

In accordance with Articles 6.6 and 6.7 of the Financial Regulations of UNESCO, there is hereby created a Special Account to be known as the “Special Account for the Sultan Qaboos Prize for Environmental Preservation”, hereafter called the “Special Account”.

**2. Purpose**

In accordance with its Statutes, the Sultan Qaboos Prize for Environmental Preservation shall be awarded every second year for outstanding contributions by individuals, groups of individuals, institutes or organizations in the field of environmental preservation.

**3. Income**

The Special Account shall be credited with a donation of US \$250,000 by Sultan Qaboos Bin Said of Oman and with the interest earned from the investment of this contribution.

**4. Expenditure**

The Special Account shall be debited with the expenses of administration of the Prize and with the amount of the payment or payments made to the winner or winners of the Prize. Expenditure in any biennium shall be limited to 80 per cent of the interest earned during the biennium from funds available, plus any unspent balance of the 80 per cent interest earned in previous biennia.

(The remaining 20 per cent of interest earned from funds available in any biennium shall be added to the original donation to offset inflation and currency fluctuations.)

**5. Accounts**

- (a) The financial period shall be identical with that of the regular programme of UNESCO.
- (b) The operations of the Special Account shall be the object of separate accounting and shall be included in the Financial Report of the Director-General.
- (c) The unused balance remaining in the Special Account at the end of the financial period shall be carried forward to the following financial period.
- (d) The accounts of the Special Account shall be kept in dollars of the United States of America. Subsidiary accounts may be kept in other currencies as required.
- (e) The accounts shall be presented for audit to the External Auditor of UNESCO.

## **6. Investments**

In accordance with Articles 9.1 and 9.2 of the Financial Regulations of UNESCO, the Director-General is authorized to invest funds standing to the credit of the Special Account. The investments made shall be in accordance with UNESCO's normal practices. Interest derived from these investments shall be credited to the Special Account in accordance with UNESCO's financial rules and procedures.

## **7. General**

Except as provided herein, the Special Account shall be administered in accordance with the Financial Regulations of UNESCO.

## **8. Closing of the Account**

The Director-General shall decide upon the closure of the Account at such time as he deems that its operation is no longer necessary.