

Al-Sumait Prize Charter

December 2018

Al- Sumait Prize in Brief

Introduction

His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Amir of the State of Kuwait, presented an initiative to the third African Arab Summit hosted by the State of Kuwait in November 2013, in support of the development of African Nations. The initiative launches an annual award named after the late Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Sumait, a Kuwaiti medical doctor who dedicated his life to raising funds to support his humanitarian work and charity in health, education and food security for the less fortunate in Africa. The award's title is "Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Sumait Prize" for advancements in the fields of Food Security, Health and Education in the African continent. The prize is to be awarded annually to individuals or institutions within one of the proposed three fields (*Food Security, Health and Education*), and has a value of **\$1,000,000** (One million US dollars). The Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) and the Board of Trustees (BOT) for the prize will oversee the prize. KFAS will provide administrative and logistic support.

Objective

The objective of the Prize is the recognition, appreciation of the best studies, scientific projects, applied research, and innovative initiatives that have made a significant and lasting influence in advancing progress in the economic and social development of Africa. In particular, the awarded research projects or initiatives should help African nations overcome poverty, hunger, and lack of potable water, or to improve health care, literacy and the allocation of economic resources. The Prize should specifically recognize major achievements within the following areas: *Food Security, Health and Education in Africa*.

Honorable Members of the Board of Trustees

H.E. Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah

First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait.
Chairperson of the Abdulrahman Al-Sumait Prize

Mr. Bill Gates

Co-Chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Mr. Abdulatif Al-Hamad

Director General and Chairman of Board of the
Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development

Dr. Kwaku Aning

Former Deputy Director General and Head of the Department of Technical
Cooperation,
International Atomic Energy Agency

Mr. Tareq Al-Mutawa

Executive Member of the Board of Public Gathering Charity Committee and Director
General
and Chairman of Board of Sadeer Company for Trading and Contracting

Mr. Makhtar Diop

Vice President for Africa, World Bank
The World Bank, Washington DC

Professor Daniel Gustafson

Deputy Director-General. Programs – FAO

Professor Stefania Giannini

Assistant Director-General for Education - UNESCO

Dr. Adnan Shihab-Eldin

Director General of the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences

Article (1): The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees (BOT) is composed of seven members and, is appointed by KFAS Board of Directors for a term of five years (renewable). The selected members are distinguished leading international and local personalities with accomplished records of interest, support and contribution to development in the African continent. . In addition, an eighth member representing The World Health Organization/ UNESCO/ The Food and Agriculture Organization is chosen on rotational basis, based on the theme of the Prize cycle within a given year The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait will chair the Board of Trustees. The Director General of KFAS will be a member and rapporteur of the BOT.

- The BOT approves the criteria and the detailed procedures and any amendments thereof for the prize in line with the best standards and practices used in similar prestigious international prizes.
- The BOT chooses the Search & Nomination, Evaluation and Selection Panels.
- The BOT considers the submitted report from the Evaluation and Selection Panels and endorses a winner or winners from amongst the recommended nominees.
- The BOT determines how to honor the winners.

Article (2): Awarding the Prize

The Prize has a total value of \$1,000,000 (one million US-Dollars) which is to be awarded along with a gold medal and a certificate of recognition.

This sum may be given to either one single winner (who may be an individual, group or institution) or several winners (a maximum of three) who may share the prize

Article (3): Subjects of the Prize

The Al-Sumait Prize is to be awarded in one of these three fields:

- **Food Security**

The field of food security includes developments in agriculture that lead towards the provision of agricultural crops, or a diverse nutritional value or an effective food distribution system that connects to all of Africa. This includes solutions for environmental challenges to agricultural production, water resources especially in arid areas, as well as human development and the provision of expertise and manpower within these areas.

- **Health**

The field of health includes research on communicable diseases prevalent in Africa such as Ebola, Malaria and HIV. It also includes the provision of medical staff (physicians and nursing), medicine, pharmaceutical and medical equipment. As well as the provision of medical centers (hospitals and clinics in remote areas, forests or desert areas).

- **Education**

The field of education includes modern education systems in basic and applied sectors. It also includes projects on the proliferation of schools, institutions and laboratories to provide a faculty of teachers and qualified trainers.

Article (4): Evaluation Procedures

The process of selecting winners is to be carried out in three stages. The first stage is to be carried out by a Search & Nomination Panel, the second by an Evaluation Panel and the last stage is to be carried out by a Selection Panel.

Search & Nomination Panel

The Search & Nomination Panel is composed of 3-5 local eminent experts in the field of The Prize, chosen by the KFAS Council of Prizes. The mandate of the Panel is three-fold: 1) to identify institutions and individuals to be contacted for the call for nomination; 2) propose international experts in the respective field of the Prize cycle to serve as members of the Evaluation and Selection Panels and 3) screen the nominees after the closing date of the call for the Prize, who fulfill the basic guidelines and the criteria of The Prize and prepare a report describing the procedures followed along with shortlisted nominees for further consideration by the other Panels. Honoraria shall be provided to the members of the Search & Nomination panel.

Evaluation Panel

The Evaluation Panel is composed of five renowned international experts, chosen by the Board of Trustees. Electronic files of shortlisted nominees will be sent to the Evaluation Panel members, who would not be required to meet in Kuwait. Each panel member will verify that the nominees meet all conditions and criteria for the prize. Each panel member will send separately his/her report that indicates whether the nominated candidates meet the requirements, and indicates the relative ranking of the candidates that may be promoted to the next round of evaluation. All reports will be presented to the final Selection Panel. Honoraria shall be provided to the members of the evaluation panel.

Selection Panel

The Selection Panel is chosen by the Board of Trustees. The panel consists of five members, three internationally renowned individuals who are specialists in the fields of the announced prize in the respective year, the DG of KFAS (exofficio) representing The BOT and a member of the Council of Prizes at KFAS or the senior member of the Search & Nomination Panel. The Selection Panel will review the reports received from the Evaluation Panel members and recommend the winner(s). The Selection Panel shall convene in Kuwait and report to the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees considers the submitted report from the Selection Panel and chooses the recommended winner(s). Honoraria may be provided to the panel members.

Article (5): Requirements and Criteria of the Prize

- The nominated candidates' research, project, or initiative must be innovative and must have achieved high-impact in line with international standards for the prize.
- The submitted work must be of paramount importance in promoting significant economic, social, human resources and infrastructure development in the African continent within the announced field of the prize.
- Submitted research of a nominated candidate should be composed of studies and applied research, published in refereed journals and recognized at a global level within the announced field. The research outcome needs to have been applied, after publication, in African countries within the past ten years. Adequate supporting evidence needs to be provided.
- Submitted works in the form of projects or initiatives should be relevant to the prize field and must include sufficient evidence of its impact and achievements during the past ten years. The evidence should include expert opinions, documented outcomes, and impact indicators verifying the impact of the application of these projects or initiatives.
- Nominations of qualified candidates are to be accepted from institutions such as universities, institutes, centers of scientific research as well as from regional and international organizations, through international prizes and former winners in the field of the prize or former evaluation members.
- All documents (studies, research works, reports, projects etc.) should be submitted electronically.
- Nominations, evaluation and decisions of the BOT are confidential.

Article (6): Announcement of the Prize

The announcement will be sent annually to universities, institutions and international offices in Africa and around the globe from media resources such as these indicated below. Further advertisements will be carried out using global impact media and websites (i.e. CNN, Nature, Science etc.)

“The internet library sub-Saharan Africa (ilissAfrica) is a portal that offers an integrated access to relevant scientific conventional and digital information resources on the sub-Saharan Africa region. Information scattered on private or institutional websites, databases or library catalogues is brought together to facilitate research”

<http://www.ilissafrika.de/en/als/browse/subject.html?fq=fsubject:0600100&nodes=0600000&search=1&sort=stit+asc#tag>

“AMESA is a free online international directory containing records of individuals who have identified themselves as being involved in any aspect of scholarship in the fields of African Studies, Middle Eastern Studies or South Asian Studies.”

<http://amesa.cul.columbia.edu/scholars/index/africa>

Association of African Universities (AAU), which possess resources to large mailing lists:
<http://www.aau.org/contact>

Article (7): Nominations for the Prize

- Nominations of qualified candidates are to be accepted from institutions such as universities, institutes, centers of scientific research as well as from regional and international organizations. In addition, nominations are accepted from international prizes and former winners in the field of the prize or former evaluation members.
- To maintain high standards for the prize, nominations will only be accepted through institutions or other possible nominators mentioned above, or through solicitations from previous winners and internationally recognized experts with recognized awards in the fields.
- The application and submitted works must be submitted electronically to Alsumait@kfas.org.kw

Article (8): Award Ceremony

The Abdulrahman Al-Sumait Prize will be awarded by His Highness the Amir of the State of Kuwait, either in a special ceremony or awarded at the KFAS Annual Prizes Ceremony along with the Kuwait Prize and the Scientific Production Prize.

Due to the noble objective of the prize and its international visibility, a separate ceremony would be advisable.