



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

04/08/2011

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Subject: **Sultan Qaboos Prize for Environmental Preservation 2011**

I am pleased to invite your Government to submit a nomination for the Sultan Qaboos Prize for Environmental Preservation, which was established by decision 5.6.1 of UNESCO's Executive Board at its 132nd session. This Prize will be awarded for the eleventh time on 17 November 2011 at a ceremony that will take place during the World Science Forum in Budapest (Hungary).

As stipulated in the Statutes for the Prize, adopted by the Executive Board and attached hereto together with the Financial Regulations and the list of previous laureates, the Sultan Qaboos Prize for Environmental Preservation is intended to honour individuals, groups of individuals, institutes or organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the management or the preservation of the environment, consistent with UNESCO's policies, aims and objectives and relevant to its programmes in this field.

The Prize is presented every two years and consists of a certificate and a financial award from a donation graciously made by His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said of Oman. The prizewinners are selected by the Bureau of the International Coordinating Council of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme.

Confident as I am of your Government's interest in the preservation of the environment, I am sure it will give this Prize all due attention and will be in a position to put forward a proposal in accordance with Article 7 of the Statutes, which specifies that candidates must have made an outstanding contribution 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) establishment and management of protected areas, such as biosphere reserves and natural World Heritage sites.

To ministers responsible for relations with UNESCO

I should be grateful if you would complete the attached nomination form and return it, together with a list of referees and before **15 September 2011**, directly to Mr Natarajan Ishwaran, Director of the Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences in the Natural Sciences Sector (UNESCO, 1, rue Miollis, 75732 Paris Cedex 15, France; fax: +33 1 45 68 58 04; e-mail: mab@unesco.org).

Nominations may be submitted in either English or French, which are UNESCO's working languages. Information about the Sultan Qaboos Prize for Environmental Preservation, together with nomination forms, are also available on the Natural Sciences Sector website dedicated to the UNESCO science prizes, which can be consulted at the following address: <http://portal.unesco.org/science/en>.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Irina Bokova
Director-General

Enclosures: Annex I: Nomination form

Annex II: Financial Regulations and Statutes of the Sultan Qaboos Prize for Environmental Preservation

Annex III: List of previous laureates of the Sultan Qaboos Prize for Environmental Preservation

cc: National Commissions for UNESCO
Permanent Delegations to UNESCO

ANNEX I

**SULTAN QABOOS PRIZE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION
2011**

Nomination form

*Nomination should be sent to: Director, Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences, UNESCO, 1 rue Miollis, 75732 Paris cedex 15, France, fax: +33 1 45 68 58 04, mab@unesco.org, before **15 September 2011**.*

1. Nomination submitted by:

-
- Government**
- Intergovernmental organization**
- Non-governmental organization that has consultative status with UNESCO**

2. Name of candidate:

(surname and first name of individual or group of individuals, or name of institute or organization):

3. Nationality: _____

4. Address: _____

5. Tel: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

6. Current occupation/focus of activities:

9. Referees:
Please provide the names of three persons, not related to the candidates, who are familiar with his/her/their/its work:

(i) **Name:** _____
Profession: _____
Address: _____

Tel: _____
Fax: _____
E-mail: _____

(ii) **Name:** _____
Profession: _____
Address: _____

Tel: _____
Fax: _____
E-mail: _____

(iii) **Name:** _____
Profession: _____
Address: _____

Tel: _____
Fax: _____
E-mail: _____

ANNEX II

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.

ANNEX III

**LAUREATES OF THE SULTAN QABOOS PRIZE FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION**

2009

Autonomous Authority for National Parks (OAPN) under the Spanish Ministry of Environment,
Rural and Marine Areas (Spain)

2007

Institute of Biodiversity Conservation (Ethiopia)
and
Mr Julius Oszlányi (Slovakia)

2005

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Australia)
and
Dr Ernesto C. Enkerlin-Hoeflich (Mexico)

2003

Centro de Ecología (Venezuela)
and
Mr Peter Johan Schei (Norway)

2001

Chad Association of Volunteers for the Protection of the Environment - A.T.V.P.E.

1999

Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galapagos Islands

1997

The Department of Environmental Sciences, Faculty of Science, University of Alexandria (Egypt)
and
The Forest Department of Sri Lanka

1995

Lake Malawi National Park

1993

Professor Jan Jeník (The Czech Republic)

1991

The Ecology Institute A.C. (Mexico)