



167th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Provisional Agenda Item 3.7

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APPOINTMENT OF THE AWARD COMMITTEE FOR THE PAHO AWARD FOR HEALTH SERVICES MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP 2021

Introduction

1. The PAHO Award for Health Services Management and Leadership is given annually to a candidate, put forward by a PAHO Member State, who has significantly contributed to strengthening the development of health systems through the management and implementation of services and programs, teaching, and research in his or her own country and in the Region of the Americas. This Award seeks to further improve the management of health systems and services, while recognizing significant contributions and leadership in the design and implementation of initiatives favorable to the management and expansion of high-quality, comprehensive health services in the health systems of the Region. The Award is conferred in recognition of work done in the past 10 years.

Background

2. This award dates to 1969, when the Executive Committee of PAHO, at its 61st session, accepted a donation from Dr. Stuart Portner, then Chief of Administration of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (PASB), to institute an annual award with a view to contributing to better administrative management of health services.

3. The original procedures and criteria for conferring this Award were approved by the 18th Pan American Sanitary Conference in 1970, with successive amendments to the requirements, conditions, and procedures approved by the PAHO Governing Bodies through the years, until the most recent amendments approved in September 2018 by the 56th Directing Council. These amendments include a change of name from PAHO Award for Administration to PAHO Award for Health Services Management and Leadership.

4. In accordance with those procedures, presented in the Annex to this document, the Award Committee should consist of the President of the Executive Committee, and a delegate and alternate from each subregion. In case of a vacancy in the Award Committee, despite the appointment of an alternate, the President will make the necessary arrangements to cover that vacancy. To facilitate decision-making, the Award Committee will consist of

an odd number of members (please see paragraph 4 of the Annex). When a candidate is a national from the same Member State represented on the Award Committee, the President of the Executive Committee will designate the alternate delegate from the corresponding subregion.

5. The names of candidates proposed by a Member State for the PAHO Award for Health Services Management and Leadership 2021 must be received by the Director of PASB no later than 31 March 2021.

6. Given the extraordinary and unprecedented circumstances presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Officers of the Executive Committee decided to postpone the item related to the PAHO Award for Health Services Management and Leadership 2020. Nonetheless, PASB takes this opportunity to thank the Member States who submitted nominations in 2020 for this prestigious Award. The Award procedures do not provide for a unique situation such as the current one. In consideration of all candidacies submitted, PASB will include the four nominations received for the 2020 Award in the list of candidates to be considered for the 2021 Award. PASB will retain all the information received in 2020 for the four candidates and submit it to the 2021 Award Committee, along with any new nominations received for the 2021 Award.

7. The Director of PASB will forward to the members of the Award Committee copies of the documentation submitted no less than 45 days before the date of the opening of the June session of the Executive Committee (please see paragraph 7 of the Annex).

8. The Award Committee will meet and deliberate on the candidacies received during the 168th Session of the Executive Committee in order to select the winner from among the candidates proposed by the Member States in 2020 and 2021. The Award will be presented in a ceremony during the 59th Directing Council in September 2021.

Action by the Executive Committee

9. The Executive Committee is requested to appoint two delegates, and two alternates to the Award Committee.

Annex

Annex

PAHO Award for Health Services Management and Leadership

Procedures¹

1. In order to contribute to the improved management of health systems and services, and to recognize significant contributions and leadership in the development and implementation of initiatives that have facilitated the management and expansion of quality comprehensive health services within health systems in the Americas, the Pan American Health Organization is renaming the PAHO Award for Administration as the PAHO Award for Health Services Management and Leadership. The Award will be given annually on a competitive basis and will consist of a diploma and the sum of US\$ 5,000. This sum will be reviewed as appropriate by the Executive Committee on the recommendation of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.
2. The Award will be conferred on a candidate who has made a significant contribution in his/her home country and/or throughout the Region of the Americas to improve the development of health systems; the organization, management, and administration of health services; the development of programs, projects, or initiatives that have demonstrated impact on population coverage and access to health services; the expansion of health services to meet the needs of the population, in particular those in situations of greatest vulnerability; the development of quality programs and patient safety programs at the national or institutional level; the organization and management of primary care services at the community level; the development of integrated networks of health services including hospital services; or the production of knowledge and research to achieve change in health service delivery. The Award is conferred in recognition of work completed in the 10 preceding years.
3. Current and former staff members of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and the World Health Organization are ineligible to be nominated for this Award for activities carried out in the course of their assigned duties in the Organization.
4. The Award Committee will be selected each year during the first session of the Executive Committee and its term will be only for the length of that selection process. The Executive Committee will appoint an Award Committee consisting of the President of the Executive Committee and a delegate and alternate from each subregion. If, despite the appointment of alternate delegates, a vacancy were to occur, the President will make arrangements to cover it. When candidates are submitted from the same Member States represented on the Award Committee, the President of the Executive Committee will designate the alternate delegate from the corresponding subregion. To facilitate the Award Committee's decision-making, in accordance with the provisions of article 8, the Award Committee will consist of an odd number of members.

¹ Resolution CD56.R7 (2018).

5. The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau will invite Member States to submit no more than two nominations for the Award. The Bureau will issue an open call for candidates during the first week of November each calendar year. The names of candidates proposed by each Member State must be received by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau no later than 31 March in the year of the Award, together with the candidates' curriculum vitae and the documentation supporting the merits of the candidacy. This documentation will include a brief narrative describing the contribution of the candidate's work in the relevant field (see article 2 above). To facilitate the work of the Award Committee, the required information on each candidate will be presented on the standard form provided by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and included in the call for candidates. This form and the documentation supporting the candidate's merits must be completed in full, with explicit responses to each of the questions. All documentation must be submitted in original form.
6. Nominations received by the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau after 31 March will not be considered for the Award.
7. The Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau will forward to the members of the Award Committee copies of the documentation submitted no less than 45 days before the date of the opening of the June session of the Executive Committee. To support the deliberations of the Award Committee, the Pan American Sanitary Bureau will also provide technical comments and any other information on candidates it may deem relevant to the deliberations of the Award Committee, including conducting due diligence on the candidate's background to determine whether it affects his or her suitability for the Award.
8. The Award Committee will meet and deliberate on the proposed candidates and will submit its recommendations during the week of the session of the Executive Committee. At least three members of the Award Committee must be present to make a meeting valid. The deliberations of the Award Committee are confidential and not for discussion outside of the Award Committee. The Award Committee will make a recommendation to the Executive Committee, approved by a majority of members present. The Executive Committee will have the final decision on accepting or rejecting recommendations of Award, with the possibility of further deliberations and recommendations by the Award Committee.
9. Candidates not elected may be renominated, following the procedure described above.
10. The winner of the Award will be announced during the Directing Council or the Pan American Sanitary Conference.
11. The Award will be presented to the successful candidate during the appropriate meeting of the Directing Council or the Pan American Sanitary Conference. The cost of his or her travel will be paid by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, which will make such arrangements in accordance with PAHO's rules and regulations.

12. When such presentation is not practicable, alternatives will include:
 - a) receipt of the Award at the Directing Council or the Pan American Sanitary Conference by a member of the delegation of the recipient's country, on his/her behalf;
 - b) presentation in the home country by the PAHO/WHO Representative on behalf of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.
13. Whatever method is used to present the Award, it will be accompanied by appropriate publicity issued to the news media, both by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and the government concerned.
14. These procedures may be reviewed by the Executive Committee at any time, as deemed appropriate in light of acquired experience. Proposed amendments must be approved by the Executive Committee and transmitted to the Directing Council or the Pan - American Sanitary Conference for its information.

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