



جائزة حسانى لخدمه اللسانية  
ISA AWARD FOR SERVICE TO HUMANITY

## NOMINATION PROCESS

THE FIRST SESSION (2011 - 2012)

PREPARED BY:  
THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT  
ISA AWARD FOR SERVICE TO HUMANITY

The First Session (2011 - 2012)  
P.O. Box 55550, Tel: (+973) 17366166, Fax: (+973) 17369693

NOMINATION PROCESS  
FOR THE ISA AWARD FOR  
SERVICE TO HUMANITY

THE FIRST SESSION (2011 - 2012)



# NOMINATION PROCESS FOR THE ISA AWARD FOR SERVICE TO HUMANITY THE SECOND SESSION (2011-2012)

As per royal directives of 2009, the Isa Award for Service to Humanity was established with a Board of Trustees chaired by Deputy Prime Minister His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa. The Secretary General and Assistant Secretary General were selected by royal appointment in 2010. The focus then shifted to deciding the Award's bylaws, procedures and categories. Other events included the hiring of the Secretariat team, the design of the Award's logo, the website launch and the opening of its fully equipped headquarters in Isa Cultural Centre. The Board of Trustees held a press conference about the Award on 25 November 2010.

The Award Categories include Disaster Prevention & Relief, Education, Community Service, Dialogue Among Civilisations, Human Tolerance, International Peace, Urban Development, Environment and Climate Change, Scientific Innovation, Poverty Alleviation, and other areas relevant to service to humanity.

After identifying the categories, the Board of Trustees formed the Nomination Committee:

- Prof. Jan Paulsson, Professor of Law, University of Miami and London School of Economics (Committee Head)
- H.E. Mohamed Benaissa, former Moroccan Foreign Minister and Secretary General of the Assilah Forum Foundation, Special Advisor to the President of the UN General Assembly (Member)

- Dr. Donna Shalala, former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, President of the University of Miami, member of Nobel Prize Jury (Member)
- Dr. Fatima Al Balooshi, Bahrain's Minister of Social Development (Member)
- Dr. Farhan Nizami, Director of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, University of Oxford (Member)
- Dr. Ghassan Salame, Professor of International Relations and Political Sciences, University of Sorbonne Paris, and Special Adviser to the United Nations' Secretary-General (member)
- Dr. John Crowley, Chief of Section for UNESCO's Ethics of Science and Technology Division (Member)

The Committee held its first meeting in Bahrain on 27 November 2010. The members focused on developing ways to filter candidates and the most efficient means to identify international humanitarian service efforts. Each member was asked to identify, evaluate, and nominate candidates.



*The second meeting of the Award Nomination Committee in London in the presence of H.H. the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Secretary General and his Assistant.*

On 26 May 2011, the Committee held its second meeting in London. The Committee went through the members' nominations, and evaluated the candidates in terms of how well they matched the Award's goal. The Committee decided to expand its search to achieve the broadest possible outreach.

The Board of Trustees tasked the Secretariat to support their search by contacting humanitarian service centres, organisations and institutions worldwide. The Board also asked Bahrain's embassies to nominate candidates.

To support the work of the Nomination Committee, the Secretariat submitted the following criteria to the Board of Trustees, by reference to the projects in which the candidates are involved:

- **The project must have a humanitarian goal.**
- **The project must have a clear target group consisting of a significant number of people.**
- **The project must have a real, beneficial impact on humanity.**
- **The project must have overcome challenges in the service of humanity.**

The Secretariat developed detailed criteria to evaluate humanitarian service projects, including the driving force behind the project, the various stages of the project, the nature of the project and its objectives, the geographic area covered, the number of employees or affiliated parties, the Board of Directors, sources of funding, the project's relationship with government, with the community, and with international organisations - particularly the humanitarian sector - the candidate's evaluation of the project and challenges faced, any awards or nominations, and the project's future in the event of the candidate leaving.

The criteria were adopted by the Board of Trustees and forwarded to the Nomination Committee, which approved and used the criteria in the evaluation process.

On 14 September 2011, the Nomination Committee held its third meeting in Manama. They reviewed the candidates put forward by Committee members and the General Secretariat. The first shortlist consisted of 27 individuals, organisations and projects from around the world. This was narrowed down to 11 candidates and then to 7 individuals, relief centres and service projects after intense scrutiny of the candidates' goals, influence, and achievements.

During the Nomination Committee's fourth meeting in Manama on 20 September 2012, the members evaluated the work of seven leading candidates and submitted a shortlist of three names to a jury. The Nomination Committee also submitted the recommendations to the Board of Trustees.

## **Field Visit**

The Isa Award's Board of Trustees held a special meeting to review the Nomination Committee's decisions. The Board assigned a team representing the Secretariat to make a field visit and to conduct a personal interview with the Malaysian candidate. The team, which included expert advisers, met with Dr. Jemilah in Kuala Lumpur on 23 and 24 November 2012. After explaining the Award and its objectives, the team told Dr. Jemilah that she was a candidate.

The team learned more about Dr. Jemilah's work, and she spent over two hours telling them about the challenges she faced. The team also met with members of her family and some of her colleagues. Based on their findings, the team prepared a positive, detailed report.

## **The Jury**

The Board of Trustees reviewed the Nomination Committee's findings in accordance with the Award's rules, and commended the Committee members on their efforts. The Board also reviewed the report on the field visit and decided to refer the report to a jury that the Board formed to assess the work of the three candidates, and to choose a winner.

On 20 December 2012, the Jury met and examined a summary of the Nomination Committee's work and the Committee's process and criteria. They also discussed the extent to which the three candidates met the Award's criteria and whether they were consistent with the spirit of the Award. The Jury agreed unanimously with the team's report and the Secretary-General's memorandum recommending Dr. Jemilah Mahmood.

Dr. Jemilah was distinguished among the candidates because her efforts are purely humanitarian, her work is not affiliated with a political party, her work is not limited to one country - her projects have benefited people around the world - and she relied on donations from individuals and institutions rather than official funding.

The Jury submitted a report to the Board of Trustees; this report included details about Dr. Jemilah and appreciation for the other candidates' humanitarian efforts.

## **The Board of Trustees' Decision**

On 23 January 2013, the Board of Trustees held a special meeting to consider the Jury's report and the report written by the team that visited Dr. Jemilah. The Board decided to adopt the Jury's decision to give Dr. Jemilah Mahmood the first Isa Award for Service to Humanity. The Board asked the General Secretariat to inform the winner, to make an official announcement and to organise the Award ceremony under the patronage of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of Kingdom of Bahrain, the Award's Honorary President.