

## **King Baudouin African Development Prize**

### **Rules of Procedure**

#### **Article 1**

A Prize has been instituted under the name of 'King Baudouin African Development Prize', hereinafter referred to as 'the Prize'. The purpose of this Prize is to reward persons or organisations that have made a substantial contribution to development in Africa. Emphasis is on innovative initiatives that have improved the quality of life of the people and that offer local communities the opportunity to take charge of their own development. The Prize succeeds the 'King Baudouin International Development Prize', an initiative launched by the King Baudouin Foundation in 1980.

#### **Article 2**

The Prize is awarded by the Board of Governors of the King Baudouin Foundation (hereinafter referred to as 'the Board'). The Board determines the procedure for awarding the Prize. Decisions are taken in accordance with article 9 of the Statutes of the Foundation.

#### **Article 3**

Within the general objective set out in article 1, the Board may specify those fields which will be given special consideration in the assessment of nominations made to it, which may include one or more of the following as they relate to development: education, health, food production, housing, new technologies, women's rights, human rights, conflict prevention, biodiversity, good government, and so on. This list is not exhaustive. The Board will endeavour to reward both practical, grassroots activities as well as theoretical work.

#### **Article 4**

In principle, the Prize is awarded every second year. The Board may decide to award it more frequently, or not at all. In the latter case, the amount of the Prize not awarded reverts to the assets of the Foundation.

#### **Article 5**

Generally speaking, the Prize is awarded only to a single person or organisation. In exceptional cases, the Board may divide the Prize into two or three equal portions where it considers that a number of activities each merit an award. The Board may also decide to award two unsuccessful candidates a special mention, in order to highlight the quality of their activities.

#### **Article 6**

Should a prize-winner refuse the Prize, the amount of the refused Prize remains the property of the Foundation.

### **Article 7**

The Prize may not be awarded posthumously. However, if a prizewinner dies between the date the award is announced and the date scheduled for the award ceremony, the amount of the Prize will be held for the winner's heirs for a period of ten years commencing from the date of the award. Should the heirs not apply to receive the amount of the Prize within this period, the undistributed amount then reverts to the assets of the Foundation.

### **Article 8**

Should a prizewinner or his heirs clearly indicate their desire to accept the Prize but be prevented from receiving it by *force majeure*, the amount of the Prize is to be held for them for a period of ten years. Thereafter, the said amount reverts to the Foundation, except if the winner or his heirs decide that the amount of the Prize should be used for other purposes. The Board administers undistributed amounts but assumes no liability in relation to the prizewinner or his heirs. The accumulated interest is to be paid with the amount of the Prize.

### **Article 9**

Where the Prize is awarded every second year, its value is determined by the Board, which announces this publicly in a manner that it judges suitable. The Board arranges a call for nominations, indicating the timetable for submissions and for the subsequent procedure for the announcement of the winner. Candidates' files which are deemed admissible are passed on within one month to the Selection Committee referred to in article 13 by the Secretariat-General of the King Baudouin Foundation, hereinafter referred to as 'the Secretariat'. In the event of the Board's deciding to award the Prize more or less frequently than every second year, another timetable is to be drawn up and made public in a manner that the Board judges suitable. The Prize is given to the winner, or to his representative, or to his heirs or to their representatives, in the form of a certificate and a financial support.

### **Article 10**

Nominations are admissible only if they are put forward in writing to the Secretariat within the time limits laid down by the Board and in the form specified; if detailed reasons are given; if all supporting documents are enclosed; and if the submission is made by a person or organization deemed to be qualified to make such recommendations because of his/her function, expertise or experience in the field. Consideration will be given to candidates' files drawn up in one of the following languages: English, Dutch or French. Files relating to nominations not selected will not be returned to their senders. The Secretariat may verify information received and request additional information.

### **Article 11**

The following persons or organizations are qualified to nominate candidates:

- The governing bodies of the United Nations Organization and the World Bank, and their affiliated regional or specialized institutions;
- The governing bodies of global and regional institutions whose activities correspond to the purpose of the Prize;

- Members of the Pan-African Parliament and of the Commission of the African Union;
- The bodies of the African Union;
- Members of the European Parliament and of the European Commission;
- The bodies of the European Union whose mission it is to handle relations with Africa;
- Members of the Belgian legislative assemblies and of the Belgian Government;
- The Ministers of Foreign Affairs or Development Cooperation of foreign countries;
- The governing bodies of Belgian or foreign government departments in charge of Foreign Affairs or Development Cooperation;
- The Ambassadors of His Majesty the King of the Belgians; the Ambassadors of African countries to Belgium or the European Union, the Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Organization or to other global or regional institutions whose activities correspond to the purpose of the Prize;
- Members of the academic staff of universities insofar as their expertise is related to the field in which the candidate they put forward carries out his or her activity;
- Members of the Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences of Belgium and of foreign academies whose field of activity corresponds to the purpose of the Prize;
- Non-governmental organizations whose sphere of activity coincides with the theme of the Prize, and their federations;
- Winners of the King Baudouin Prize;
- Former members of the Selection Committee of the King Baudouin Prize;
- Persons, organisations or companies which the Board calls upon to submit proposals or especially acknowledges as being competent to do so.

Members of the Board are not entitled to submit nominations. During the course of the procedure, the Selection Committee referred to in article 13 has the right to submit additional nominations. The Board will be informed of this. The Board of the King Baudouin Foundation has absolute discretion on the admissibility of all nominations.

The Secretariat may call upon external third party individuals, who are not members of the Selection Committee, to recommend up to five potential candidates and provide a short description in support of their recommendation. The potential candidates are then contacted by the Secretariat, which invites them to submit their candidature via the normal procedure, as foreseen in Article 10. These third parties are also authorized to submit candidatures.

### **Article 12**

No consideration will be given to nominations of persons or groups applying for the Prize on their own behalf. Likewise a nomination for an organization will be refused if this is submitted by an officer of that organization. A holder of the Prize may not be put forward a second time as a candidate. A nomination which has not been selected may be resubmitted for a future Prize. Persons or organizations which have no structural link between them may not be submitted under a single nomination.

### **Article 13**

The Board appoints the Chairman and the members of the Selection Committee in order to report to it and to make proposals for the awarding of the Prize. The Committee must consist of at least ten members. Persons nominated for the Prize may not be members of the Selection Committee which advises on these nominations unless they explicitly withdraw their candidacy. The Selection Committee may adopt rules of procedure. It may make any enquiry it deems appropriate when assessing the nominated candidates. The members of the Selection Committee may receive remuneration. The amount shall be established by the Board of the King Baudouin Foundation. The Selection Committee may appoint one or more rapporteurs from among its members. Rapporteurs may among other things be required to make a field visit to candidates which have been selected for the final phase of the selection procedure. The remuneration of the rapporteurs may differ from that of the other members of the Selection Committee. The Secretariat of the Selection Committee is provided by the Secretariat-General of the King Baudouin Foundation.

### **Article 14**

Candidates who are the subject of a field visit, as provided for in article 13, shall inform the members of the Selection Committee fully and transparently about their structure and activities. They also undertake to inform the Foundation immediately of any significant change that may occur during the period between the field visit and the award ceremony.

### **Article 15**

The Board has absolute discretion in awarding the Prize on the basis of the report of the Selection Committee. Decisions are made in accordance with article 9 of the Statutes of the King Baudouin Foundation. The vote is confidential. No reasons will be given for the Board's decisions, which are final.

### **Article 16**

Under exceptional circumstances the Board reserves the right to withdraw a Prize that has been awarded between the date the award is announced and the date scheduled for the award ceremony. Such a withdrawal of the Prize could for example occur in case there is a significant change in the winner's structure or activities during the aforementioned period, or if the winner's conduct could harm the reputation of the Prize, or if it appears that the Selection Committee's fundamental reasons for awarding the Prize are no longer consistent with the facts.

### **Article 17**

Nominations may not be revealed or made public in any way. The same applies to the minutes of the meetings of the Selection Committee and the Board. The minutes of these two bodies do not record opinions expressed by their various members. After deliberation, since each case will be examined separately, the Board may allow access to the archives in order to facilitate historical research.

**Article 18**

Prizewinners undertake, at the request of the Foundation, to give two public lectures in the course of the week of the presentation of the Prize.