

Statutes of the
King Hassan II Great World Water Prize

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1. Mission

Considering the renowned interest of His Late Majesty Hassan II in water problems, and His Majesty's distinguished leadership and encouragement of cooperation and sound management in the development and use of water resources,

Considering how His Majesty perspicaciously called for the international community to render water resources management a model of interdependence and solidarity among nations,

Considering the aim of the World Water Council to have at its disposal a means of stimulating awareness and reflection,

The King Hassan II Great World Water Prize (hereafter referred to as the Prize) was established as a joint initiative of the World Water Council (hereafter referred to as the Council) and the Government of Morocco, in memory of His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco.

This agreement was confirmed at the 7th Meeting of the Council's Board of Governors in March 2000.

The Prize will have a clear association with the attributes described above and the objectives of the Council as described hereafter:

- **Identify critical water issues** of local, regional and global importance on the basis of ongoing assessments on the state of world water;
- **Raise awareness** of critical water issues at all levels of decision making, from the highest authorities to the general public;
- Provide a forum to arrive at a **common strategic vision on integrated water resources management** on a sustainable basis, and to promote the implementation of effective policies and strategies worldwide;
- **Provide advice and relevant information** to institutions and decision-makers on the development and implementation of comprehensive policies and strategies for sustainable water resources management, with due respect for the environment, and social and gender equity;
- Contribute to the **resolution** of issues related to **trans-boundary waters**.

2. Theme of the Prize

The general theme of the Prize will be **cooperation and sound management in the development and use of water resources**, in memory of his Majesty King Hassan II.

The Prize Committee may develop future specific themes at the beginning of each award cycle, but the spirit of the award should always reflect **cooperation and development**.

The contribution may relate to the full range of activities in the field of water resources, for example: scientific, economic, technical, environmental, social, institutional, cultural and political.

3. Frequency of award

The Prize will be awarded every three years and will coincide with the event known as the World Water Forum (hereafter referred to as the Forum).

4. Value of the Prize

The current value of the Prize is US\$ 100,000, provided by the government of the Kingdom of Morocco.

In addition, the **Prize Winner** will receive a **Trophy**, a **Certificate**, all provided by the government of the Kingdom of Morocco.

5. Organization

Four organs are involved in the award cycle: the Prize Committee, the Panel of Judges, the Promotional Commission, and the Prize Secretariat.

5.1 Prize Committee

The Committee is responsible for the overall planning and management of the Prize.

The Committee is chaired by the Moroccan Minister of Land Use Planning, Water Resources and Environment, and comprises three members selected by the Government of Morocco and three members selected by the Council.

Additional advisors may be invited to participate in the activities of the Committee at the discretion of its Chair, for example, the Council's Executive Director and the Forum Secretary General.

The Committee is responsible for the selection of the Panel of Judges and the Promotional Commission.

It is also responsible for developing screening criteria for candidates, so that the Panel of Judges may evaluate candidates meeting specific standards.

Following consultation with the Panel of Judges, the Prize Committee will prepare a statement explaining the reasons for the selection of the Prize winner. The statement will be presented at the Award Ceremony.

The Prize Committee will work on a voluntary basis. An amount will be allocated to the expenses of two Committee meetings maximum.

5.2 Panel of Judges

The international Panel of Judges will comprise seven high-profile personalities, proposed by the Council and approved by the Prize Committee, plus the Chair of the Prize Committee who will chair the Panel of Judges.

The Panel will judge Candidates by the evaluation of written proposals, submitted in writing and in accordance with the rules of Candidate Proposals and screened according to the criteria of the Prize Committee. Only proposals of the highest merit will be submitted to the Panel.

The Panel will receive the Candidate Proposals that have been approved by the Prize Committee, five months before the Award Ceremony.

Any member of the panel may request further information concerning a particular Candidate.

At a special meeting held two months prior to the Award Ceremony, the Panel will select a winner.

The Panel may, exceptionally, select more than one Candidate to share the Prize.

The decision to select a winner will normally be by consensus. If this is not obtained, the decision will be by majority vote, whereby each Panel member casts one vote.

In the case of a tied vote, the Chair will make the final decision. The decision obtained by this process will be final.

If any member of the Panel is not able to attend the meeting, his/her vote will be passed to the Chair of the Panel.

The members of the Panel of Judges will work on a voluntary basis.

5.3 Promotional Commission

The Promotional Commission will be in charge of the call for candidates, the acquisition of the Trophy, the establishment of the certificate, the relations with the media, the announcement of the Prize, and the coordination and organization of the Award Ceremony, Press Conference and Banquet.

More specifically, the Promotional Commission will:

- Develop a general description of the Prize for external information.
- Be responsible for promotion of the Prize on the Council's website and the Council's other media tools, and the organization of press releases prior to and after the award.
- Manage the expenditure and priorities for the use of external media for the promotion of the Prize according to the **Council's Budget**.
- With the approval of the Prize Committee, carry out the selection of the **Trophy and Certificate** at least three months in advance of the award.
- In collaboration with the Forum organizers, organize the **Ceremony** and the **Banquet**, including the agenda for both events. The agendas will be finalized, with the approval of the Prize Committee, one month before the Award.
- Arrange a **Press Conference**, organized in collaboration with the Forum organizers, to be convened on the day of the award.

The following key people will be included in the Promotional Commission:

- **From the Prize Committee:** Two members to Chair and Vice-Chair the Promotional Commission
- **From the Council:** Executive Director, Media Coordinator, and Prize Secretariat Coordinator
- **From the Forum:** Forum Secretary General, Media Coordinator, Ceremony Coordinator, and a Shadow Officer for the following Forum.

5.4 Prize Secretariat and correspondence address

The official address for the prize will be that of the Council's Headquarters in Marseilles.

The Prize Secretariat will comprise Council staff, and be managed by the Executive Director, a Prize Coordinator and an Administrator.

The Prize Secretariat will:

- Carry out general correspondence in relation to all aspects of the Prize.
- Prepare a detailed schedule for the Award cycle.
- Record, acknowledge receipt and circulate to the Prize Committee, all Candidate proposals.
- Keep detailed accounts of expenditure in relation to the Prize.
- Compile and manage a database of press contacts for the issue of news releases and the Prize Award press conference.

6. Administration and Promotion Budget

At the beginning of each award cycle, the Prize Committee will prepare a provisional budget for the promotion and administration of the Prize. The Council's Board of Governors will approve the budget.

The members of the Committee and of the Panel will work on a voluntary basis for the organization of the Prize.

Provision of travel expenses will be made **on the Council's Budget for one meeting of the Panel of Judges, and for two meeting, at the maximum, of the Prize Committee.**

Special meetings will be avoided as far as possible, and the Committee will normally take the opportunity to meet during scheduled meetings of the Council's Board of Governors.

Council and World Water Forum staff will not draw from the budget of the Prize. The only additional cost will be that of the Trophy and Certificate, both of which are provided by the Government of Morocco, and the efficient promotion of the Prize through selected media.

The Government of the Kingdom of Morocco takes in charge the expenditure related to the conception and the realization of the Trophy.

The Council should cover the expenses of the **Prize Winner** for attending the Forum and any of its events.

The Council undertakes to ensure that the expenses related to this ceremony will be met by the organizers of the World Water Forum, failing which the Council will itself pay these expenses.

The Council undertakes to ensure that the organizers of the World Water Forum provide appropriate space for the promotion of the Prize in the Forum literature leading up to the event.

7. Definition of Candidates

The Prize will be awarded to individuals, groups of individuals, institutes or organizations that have made a recent and outstanding contribution to the theme of the Prize.

8. Nomination of Candidates

Any organization related to water resources may nominate a Candidate. Candidates must not have been involved in recent competitions for other water-related prizes.

The deadline for nominations will be 31 July of the year preceding the year of the Award.

Before this deadline, the Nominator will be required to complete a nomination form, providing contact details of the Nominator and the Candidate, and submit:

1. Two letters of reference supporting the Candidacy (the second being independent from the Nominator)
2. A summary document (less than 2000 words), reviewing the contribution of the Candidate in the context of the Prize theme.

Proposals will be approved by the Prize Committee and then forwarded to the Panel of Judges. The Panel of Judges may request further supporting evidence.

No preference will be given to the candidates' nationality, race, sex, language, profession or religion.

The candidates, individuals or organizations should not be members of the following groups:

- Prize Committee
- WWC Bureau
- Promotional Commission
- Prize Secretariat
- Panel of Judges

9. Announcement of the Award

Following the decision by the Panel of Judges, the **Prize Winner** will be informed by letter. The letter will invite the **Prize Winner** to attend the Award Ceremony and Banquet as the guest of honour. The Chair of the Prize Committee and the President of the Council will sign the letter.

The Prize Secretariat will seek confirmation of the **Prize Winner's** attendance as quickly as possible.

10. Award Ceremony

The Prize Cheque, Trophy and Certificate (hereafter, know collectively as the Award) will be presented to the **Prize Winner** in a special Ceremony during the opening ceremony of the Forum. A dignitary nominated by His Majesty King Mohamed VI of Morocco will present the Award. The Chair of the Prize Committee, or his designate, will present the statement explaining the reasons for the selection of the Prize winner.

A minimum of 30 minutes on the Forum schedule shall be allocated for the Award Ceremony.

The Council undertakes to ensure that the **organizers of the World Water Forum** should give all the necessary support to the Promotional Commission for the organization of the Award Ceremony, including the conception and the protocol of the ceremony.

11. Press Conference

The **Promotional Commission** will arrange a Press Conference, organized in collaboration with the Forum organizers, to be convened on the day of the award. The Press will be invited to interview the **Prize Winner** and other dignitaries involved with the Prize Ceremony.

The **database of press contacts** previously compiled by the **Prize Secretariat** will be used to prepare the invitation list for the Press Conference.

The invitations for the Press Conference will be dispatched one month before the Prize Award.

The Press Conference will take place immediately after the Prize Ceremony.

The members of the Press will be invited to the Prize Banquet, as an incentive to participate in the Press Conference.

12. Award Banquet

The Promotional Commission and the Forum Organizers will arrange for a formal evening dinner to take place during the Forum, preferably on the same day as the Award Ceremony.

The Guests of Honour will be the Prize Winner. Invitations to Distinguished Guests (no fee) will include: the Presenter of the Award, the Council's President, the Chair and all members of the Prize Committee and Panel of Judges, and other dignitaries selected by the Sub-Committee and the Forum Organizers, including key members of the Media/Press.

The Government of the Kingdom of Morocco shall cover the cost of the Banquet. Tickets may be sold to any other personalities to recover the costs.

13. Modification of the Statutes

With the approval of the Council's Board of Governors, the Prize Committee may modify these statutes following the completion of an Award cycle. The Prize Committee will determine the modalities.

14. Duration of the Prize

The Prize will continue to be awarded, on a three-year cycle, upon agreement of both the Council and the Government of Morocco.