



Rules of Procedure for the King Baudouin International Development Prize

Article 1

There is to be a prize to be known as the ‘King Baudouin International Development Prize’ hereinafter referred to as ‘the Prize’. The object of the Prize is to reward persons who or organizations which, regardless of nationality, have made a substantial contribution towards the advancement of less-developed countries or towards cooperation and good relations among industrialized and developing countries and among their peoples. Particular importance will be attached to activities which have a multiplier effect and to activities that enable the peoples of less-developed countries to engineer their own development.

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 organization. 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 prizewinner 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. 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 of the King Baudouin Foundation 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 qualified to make such recommendations. Consideration will be given to candidates' files drawn up in one of the national languages of Belgium (Dutch, French or German), or in English or in Spanish, to the exclusion of all other languages. Files relating to nominations not selected will not be returned to their senders. The Board may verify information received and request additional information.

Article 11

The following persons or organizations are qualified to nominate candidates:

- members of the Belgian legislative assemblies and the Belgian government;
- ambassadors of HM the King;
- senior levels of Belgian or foreign civil service departments responsible for development cooperation;
- members of the Belgian Royal Academy of Overseas Sciences and of foreign academies with fields of activity in keeping with the aims of the Prize;
- members of the academic staff of Belgian and foreign university-level institutes, insofar as their teaching or research has a bearing on the precise field of involvement of the candidate proposed by them;
- the Foreign Affairs or Development Aid Ministers of foreign countries;
- the heads of diplomatic missions to the Belgian royal court;
- senior levels of the United Nations Organization, the World Bank and Regional Development Banks, together with the regional or specialist institutions affiliated to them;
- senior levels of world and regional institutions which have activities in keeping with the aims of the Prize;
- European Union bodies with a mandate to handle relations with less-developed countries;
- federations of non-governmental organizations and Belgian non-governmental organizations with fields of activity coinciding with the theme of the Prize;
- former members of the Selection Committee;
- holders of the King Baudouin International Development Prize;
- individuals, organizations or companies which the Board invites by name to submit proposals, or recognizes by name as being qualified 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 of Governors will be informed of this. The Board or, if so empowered, the Executive Committee of the King Baudouin Foundation, has absolute discretion on the admissibility of all nominations.

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 four 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. With the permission of the Board, it may seek the assistance of Belgian or foreign experts. The members of the Selection Committee and the experts may receive remuneration. The amount shall be established by the Board or, if so empowered, by the Executive Committee 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-General of the King Baudouin Foundation provides secretarial services to the Selection Committee.

Article 14

Candidates which 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, provided that at least fifty years have elapsed since the decision to which this research relates.

Article 18

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