

Board of Governors

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Item 4 of the provisional agenda
(GOV/2005/81)

IAEA Special Fund - Nobel Peace Prize for 2005

Report by the Director General

1. The Norwegian Nobel Committee decided on 7 October 2005 to award, in equal shares, the Nobel Peace Prize for 2005 to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and its Director General, Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei, “for their efforts to prevent nuclear energy from being used for military purposes and to ensure that nuclear energy for peaceful purposes is used in the safest possible way”. At its meeting on 14 October, the Board of Governors welcomed the decision of the Committee and discussed a number of issues related to the award.
2. The Board agreed that the Agency’s share of the monetary award (5 million Swedish Kronor, or approximately €25 000) should be used for funding the needs of developing countries in the peaceful application of nuclear energy, specifically in the human health and food production sectors. The Board requested the Director General to submit to it a proposal for the use of the monetary award.
3. The Director General now proposes that the Agency’s monetary award be used for human resource development in developing countries (through fellowships and training) in the areas of cancer management and nutrition. In the area of cancer management, it is proposed to use the funds to provide practical training in radiation oncology. This would contribute to the Agency’s Programme of Action on Cancer Therapy (PACT). In the area of nutrition, it is proposed to focus the training programme on the role of nutrition in helping to ensure the healthy development of children using nuclear techniques.
4. The Director General proposes to award fellowships to young professionals, particularly women, from developing Member States through the Agency’s Technical Cooperation Programme or coordinated research activities. It is also proposed to organize training courses in regional centres in Africa, Asia and Latin America. This proposal for human resource development would ensure that individuals from all developing regions would benefit from the Nobel Peace Prize.
5. As authorized by the Board, the Director General has already established a Special Fund for the receipt of the award, and proposes that this Fund be known as the “IAEA Nobel Cancer and Nutrition Fund”.
6. The Director General also encourages Member States and other donors to contribute to the Special Fund by making available additional resources both in cash and in kind, to be used to maximize the Agency’s ability to build capacity and transfer the needed know-how to developing countries.

Recommended Action

7. It is recommended that the Board:
 - (a) approve the Director General's proposal that the Agency's monetary share of the Nobel Peace Prize for 2005 be used for human resource development in developing regions of the world in the areas of cancer management and nutrition, as described above;
 - (b) encourage Member States and other donors to contribute to the Special Fund; and
 - (c) request the Director General to keep the Board informed of progress, as appropriate.