

February 2011

	منظمة الأغذية والزراعة للأمم المتحدة	联合国 粮食及 农业组织	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture	Продовольствен ная и сельскохозяйств енная организация Объединенных Наций	Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación
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COUNCIL

Hundred and Forty-first Session

Rome, 11-15 April 2011

Margarita Lizarraga Medal

1. At its 29th Session in November 1997, the FAO Conference, by Resolution 18/97, instituted the Margarita Lizárraga Medal to be awarded biennially by the Conference upon the proposal of the Council to a person or organization that has served with distinction in the application of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (the Code).
2. The Medal pays tribute to the late Dr Margarita Saucedo Lizárraga, Senior Fishery Liaison Officer for her decisive role in promoting the Code, for her productive work in the field of fisheries for almost forty years, for her great dedication to FAO and for her strong commitment towards fostering the promotion of the fisheries sector, especially in developing countries.
3. The Selection Committee for the award, composed of the Assistant Director-General, Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, and the Bureau of the Twenty-ninth Session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI), met in Rome on 2 February 2011. The meeting was chaired by the Deputy Director-General (Knowledge), representing the Director-General.
4. The Selection Committee reviewed the three nominations for the 2010-2011 biennium, proposed by the Members of the Screening Committee, on the basis of the following criteria:
 - Outstanding, practical and a hands-on contribution to the application of the Code;
 - The output should be tangible;
 - Sustained effort and not a one off initiative and;
 - Potential for a snow-ball/catalytic effect.
5. The Selection Committee unanimously agreed to award the Margarita Lizárraga Medal to the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia and the Pacific (NACA) in Thailand.
6. NACA was selected with recognition of its significant contribution to sustainable aquaculture development in the Asia and Pacific Region. NACA serves as a cohesive intergovernmental forum for the formulation of regional policies as well as cooperation and coordination in aquaculture research, development and training. In particular NACA has noteworthy achievements in the areas of environment and aquatic animal health, support to small-scale fish farming, promotion of better management practices (BMPs) and aquaculture certification. The NACA model as an intergovernmental organization and a regional aquaculture network has been and is being emulated in other region as a catalytic effect of the achievement. The contribution of NACA to application of the Code is therefore outstanding, practical, tangible and sustainable as well as catalytic for other regions to follow.

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SUGGESTED ACTION BY THE COUNCIL

7. The Council is invited to endorse the nomination of the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia and the Pacific (NACA) in Thailand, and recommend that the Medal be presented to it as part of the proceedings of the 37th Session of the Conference (25 June - 2 July 2011).