Executive Summary
The A.H. Boerma Award pays tribute to Addeke H. Boerma, FAO Director-General from 1968 to 1975. The Award is presented biennially to a journalist, or other individuals, whose writing on development questions has helped focus public attention at the international or regional levels on important aspects of world food issues, in particular those related to agricultural and rural development in developing countries, thereby building up public support for solutions to these questions. The winner of the Award for 2012-13 is the Guardian Development editorial team.

1. The Award was established under Resolution 1/75 of the Conference in 1975. In June 1977 the Council recommended that the Award need not be confined to the written word, but could be extended to all the information media, including television and radio.

2. The Conference in 1977 noted the decision of the Council “that the A.H. Boerma Award should consist of one biennial USD10 000 prize for one or more writers whose work was likely to have increased international public awareness of the world food problem and of measures leading to its solution. The recipient or recipients would be selected by the Director-General, bearing in mind the relevant recommendations made by the Council, and the presentation would take place during the Conference sessions”.

3. The Award consists of: (i) a scroll describing the recipient’s achievements; (ii) an engraved FAO medal; (iii) a cash prize of USD 10 000; (iv) an expenses-paid visit to Rome to receive the Award for the Award winner and one accompanying person.

Selection of Award winners
4. The Award winners are selected by the Director-General in consultation with the Independent Chairperson of the Council and the Chairpersons of the Programme and Finance Committees, after earlier review of all nominations by the Office for Communication, Partnerships and Advocacy, and of selected entries by the A.H. Boerma Award Review Committee. The materials upon which nominations are based must have been published or publicly presented during the four-year period ending on 30 November 2012.
5. The Award for 2012-2013 is being granted to the Guardian Development editorial team (The Guardian newspaper, United Kingdom) in acknowledgement of their significant contribution to improving world-wide understanding of development issues, particularly agriculture, food security and poverty, with emphasis on progress made towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

6. The Guardian’s global development portal was launched in 2010 to provide special focus on progress made towards reaching the Millennium Development Goals. In addition to in-depth reporting on development issues by Guardian writers, the site hosts articles and opinion pieces from a range of voices around the globe, as well as online debates, unique data collections, and resources for students.

7. The Guardian Development team has provided high quality, in-depth and up-to-date multimedia coverage ranging from analysis of international policy to on-the-ground reportages, using new media formats to creatively and effectively communicate on these important issues.

8. The dedicated work of the Award winners has contributed greatly to substantially enhancing public awareness and understanding of key aspects of the world food problem, of agricultural and rural development issues.