

	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	Продовольственная и сельскохозяйственная организация Объединенных Наций	Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación
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## COUNCIL

### Hundred and Thirty-sixth Session

Rome, 15-19 June 2009

### MARGARITA LIZARRAGA MEDAL

1. At its Twenty-ninth 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.
2. The Medal pays tribute to the late Dr Margarita Saucedo Lizárraga, Senior Fishery Liaison Officer for her decisive role in promoting the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (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-eighth Session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI), met in Rome on 4 March 2009. The meeting was chaired by the Deputy Director-General, representing the Director-General.
4. The Selection Committee reviewed the three nominations for the 2008-2009 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;
  - Be a sustained effort and not a one off initiative and;
  - Have the potential for a snow-ball/catalytic effect.
5. The Selection Committee unanimously agreed to award the Margarita Lizárraga Medal to the Honourable Abraham Iyambo, Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources of Namibia.

6. Dr Iyambo is the first individual to be awarded the medal, while the five earlier winners since 1999 were organizations. He was selected in recognition of his national, regional and international leadership with distinction in the application of the Code through implementation of responsible fisheries science, policies and management including the negotiations leading to the Reykjavik Declaration, his contribution to establishment of the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem Project (BCLME), the Benguela-Environment-Fisheries-Interaction and Training Programme (BENEFIT) and the South East Atlantic Fisheries Organization (SEAFO).

#### **SUGGESTED ACTION BY THE COUNCIL**

7. The Council is invited to endorse the nomination of the Honourable Abraham Iyambo, Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources in Namibia, and recommend that the Medal be presented to him as part of the proceedings of the Thirty-sixth Session of the Conference (November 2009).