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FOOD AND
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LA AGRICULTURA
Y LA ALIMENTACION

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MARGARITA LIZARRAGA MEDAL AWARD

NOMINATIONS 2002-2003

The Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

The FAO Conference, at its Twenty-eighth Session in October 1995, adopted the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. In doing so, the Conference called on FAO, States and all those involved in fisheries to implement the Code including relevant actions to achieve responsible fisheries.

The Code is a comprehensive document that addresses all those involved in fisheries and applies to all types of fisheries both within the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) and on the high seas, in inland waters, as well as aquaculture. As a basic instrument, the Code is meant to facilitate sustainable utilisation of global fishery resources and hence, to contribute to food security and well being of people.

Institution of the Margarita Lizárraga Medal Award

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. The award pays tribute to Ms. Margarita Saucedo Lizárraga, Senior Fishery Liaison Officer, International Institutions and liaison Service (FIPL) her decisive role in promoting the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, her productive work in the field of fisheries for almost forty years, her great dedication to FAO and for her strong commitment towards fostering the promotion of the fisheries sector, especially in developing countries.

Nature of the recognition

A commemorative medal with the inscription of the name of the person or organization.

Eligibility

Person, institution or organization that has served with distinction in the application of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.

Basic criteria

A nominee must have made an outstanding contribution to the implementation of the Code and such actions should have facilitated or have the potential to facilitate the sustainable utilization of fishery resources or the promotion of environmentally sound aquaculture and, hence, contribute to food security and well being of people. In this regard, the activity should:

- Reflect a hands-on application of the Code
- Be a sustained effort and not a one-off initiative
- The output should be tangible and sustainable
- Have the potential for a snow-ball effect, if possible.

Submission of Nominations

Nominations should be submitted, **not later than 31 December 2002**, using the Nomination Form herewith attached, preferably through electronic mail to:

Secretary of the Committee on Fisheries
Margarita Lizárraga Award Selection Committee
FAO Fisheries Department
F-412
E-mail. Benedict.Satia@fao.org

Award Selection Committee

Chairperson: Director-General of FAO

Members Bureau of the FAO Committee on Fisheries
Assistant, Director-General, Fisheries Department

Conferment of Awards

The award will be presented by the Director-General as part of the proceedings of the Thirty-Second Session of the FAO Conference in November-December 2003.

Laureats

The award for 1998-99 was presented to the non-governmental organization (NGO National Fisheries Solidarity (NAFSO) of Sri Lanka for its outstanding and practical initiative in promoting and disseminating the Code. In particular, this NGO has taken very practical steps to translate the Code into the Sinhala language, to print it and distribute it among fish workers. Without this work, it is highly likely that these largely illiterate fishing communities would not have had access to the Code.

For the biennium 2000-2001, the Award was presented to the Canadian Responsible Fisheries Board and its Secretariat in recognition of its unprecedented grass-roots approach in the development of a national Code of Conduct based on the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. This initiative is resulting in responsible fisheries management and new partnerships between industry and the Government in the fisheries sector of Canada.