

Modalities for ECO Awards¹

The objective of the ECO Awards was to reward outstanding research work and/or achievement from the Member States in the fields which should preferably have regional character with special emphasis on the contribution to the ECO's goals and objectives. The ECO biennial Awards are granted on the occasion of ECO Summit Meetings to the winners nominated by the member states. The ECO Awards Selection Committee comprising experts of each member state selects the candidates for the awards nominated by the member states.

A meeting of ECO Awards Committee was held at the ECO Secretariat in November 2007 to finalize the modalities of ECO Awards. According to the Modalities, approved by the 8th Meeting of ECO Council of Ministers in May 1998 in Almaty, the awards are given in the fields of:

- a. Economics,
- b. History, culture, literature and fine arts, c. Science and Technology, d. Education, and
- e. Agriculture and Environment.

A copy of the Modalities of ECO Awards is placed below.

A) ECO Awards Selection Committee

The Selection Committee of ECO Awards will comprise authorized experts from each Member State. Each member state shall have the right to only one

¹ Adopted by 8th COM on 9 May 1998, Almaty – Kazakhstan

vote. The ECO Secretary General will be ex-officio Member of the Selection Committee and will have the right to vote.

The Selection Committee shall meet biennially upon the invitation of the ECO Secretariat and select one candidate – winner for the award in each of the five fields as listed in paragraph (B) below, from the nominees proposed by the Member States. At least one month before the meeting the Secretariat shall circulate among the Member States working papers for the Meeting including detailed information on the nominees.

Selection shall be made by the principle of two-third majority of the total number of the Selection Committee.

The said Committee will elect its Chairman during the meeting.

B) Fields of Excellence

The awards shall be given for outstanding research work and/or achievement in the following fields which should preferably have regional character with special emphasize on the contribution to the ECO's goals and objectives:

- 1- Economics
- 2- History, Culture, Literature and Fine Arts
- 3- Science and Technology
- 4- Education
- 5- Agriculture and Environment.

The representative of Azerbaijan Republic stated that the studies in economic geography shall be considered under the field of Excellence "Economics".

C) Value of Awards and Frequency

Cash awards of US \$ 7500 (Seven thousand five hundred US Dollars) for each field of Excellence, along with a medallion shall be given biennially for outstanding performance in the specified fields.

The frequency of granting ECO Awards was agreed to be biennial, however, this frequency may be revised by the Selection Committee after an initial period of two or three rounds.

D) Nomination

Each Member State may furnish to the ECO Secretariat up to 5 nominations, one for each of the above mentioned fields of excellence along with justification including bio-data/curriculum vitae and list/copies of complete works of each nominee. An Award Nomination Form shall be devised and forwarded to the Member States along with the initial notice for the selection of nominees given them sufficient time to circulate the information and invite nominations from their relevant institutions, organizations, individuals etc. in the respective fields.

In order to alleviate the work of the Selection Committee, the list of nominees in the fields No. 2, 3 and 4 may be forwarded to the relevant ECO institutions to receive their views and the preference order so that Selection Committee may take into consideration those views in the selection process.

E) Final Decision

The names and particulars of the candidates selected by the Award Committee will be submitted to the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) for its consideration and inclusion in the agenda of the Council of Ministers for its approval. Thereafter, the Secretariat will announce the winners.

F) Award Ceremony

The ECO Awards shall be given in a ceremony during the ECO Summit Meetings. The Presidents of the relevant ECO Institutes/Foundations may be invited to the ceremony.