



## Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
6 April 2006

Original: English

**For action**

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### United Nations Children's Fund

Executive Board

**Annual session 2006**

5-9 June 2006

Item 12 of the provisional agenda\*

### The UNICEF Maurice Pate Leadership for Children Award

#### *Summary*

The selection process for the Maurice Pate Award and its monetary value were last revised in 2002 (E/ICEF/2002/7 and decision 2002/5 in E/ICEF/2002/8/Rev.1). In order to reflect organizational and programmatic changes that have occurred since then and to simplify the selection process, several amendments are proposed.

It is recommended that the Executive Board approve the draft decision in section II.

#### **I. Background**

1. At a special session on 11 November 1965, the Executive Board approved the UNICEF Executive Director's recommendation that the Nobel Peace Prize money received by UNICEF be used to establish a fund in memory of Maurice Pate, the first Executive Director of UNICEF (E/ICEF/537).
2. By the end of 1978, the original funding and contributions for this Award were exhausted, but in 1979, the Executive Board approved the Award's continuation through allocation of general resources (E/ICEF/P/L.1906 (REC)).
3. In early 2001, the Bureau of the Executive Board asked the secretariat to review the selection process and criteria to ensure that the Award was continuing to meet its purpose. Informal discussions were held with Bureau members, and a small working group in the secretariat was asked to propose modifications if necessary.

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\* E/ICEF/2006/10.

4. At the first regular session of 2002, the Board reaffirmed the validity and importance of the Award as a means to call the world's attention to progress being made for children and to methods employed, thus inspiring replication and broader support. In decision 2002/5, it was agreed that the Award would convey recognition of extraordinary and exemplary leadership in, and contribution to, the advancement of the survival, protection and development of children, on a regional, national or global scale.

5. In most respects, the stated purpose and selection criteria of the UNICEF Maurice Pate Leadership for Children Award remain valid. However, a number of developments since the last revision suggest the timeliness of a slight revamping of the Award.

6. The developments include the renewed emphasis on partnerships for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals through the newly defined UNICEF medium-term strategic plan for 2006-2009, as well as the increased involvement of UNICEF in global movements and initiatives that are crucial to leveraging sustainable results for children. These developments need to be formally integrated into the purpose of the UNICEF Maurice Pate Leadership for Children Award.

7. The Award will, therefore, be a valuable way of acknowledging and commending key leading individuals and organizations in the global partnership for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, most of which have a direct impact on the condition of children.

8. The second objective of this revision is to simplify the selection process for Award recipients in order to render it more feasible and manageable.

9. Finally, it is proposed that the periodicity of the Award be changed from yearly to occasional, that the Award not necessarily be of monetary value, and that the monetary value, when attached to the Award, amount to \$50,000 or less.

10. It is therefore proposed that procedures related to objectives, recipients, nominations, selection and value for the UNICEF Maurice Pate award be amended as follows in the draft decision.

## **II. Draft decision**

11. It is recommended that the Executive Board adopt the following draft decision:

*The Executive Board,*

*Having considered* the recommendation of the secretariat proposing changes to the UNICEF Maurice Pate Leadership for Children Award (E/ICEF/2006/16),

*Decides* that the procedure related to objectives, recipients, nominations, selection and value for the UNICEF Maurice Pate Award be amended to reflect the following:

### **1. Objectives and criteria**

The Award will be titled "The UNICEF Maurice Pate Leadership for Children Award". The Award will be granted to an individual or organization displaying extraordinary example and exemplary innovation and inspirational leadership in

contributing to the advancement of the UNICEF mandate for children on a national, regional and global scale. In selecting a recipient, consideration will be given to those individuals or organizations whose activities (a) provide for meaningful results for the betterment of children and young people's condition; and (b) encourage activities with a potential for multiplying positive effects for children in their community.

The Award not only will be conferred on the basis of recipients' previous work but will also be considered a grant in support of the continued work of the individual or organization in carrying out the above objectives.

## **2. Recipients**

The Award may be conferred upon an institution, agency or individual, but not upon a Government or a Head of State or Government. The Award will not be conferred upon any United Nations organization or official. Caution will be exercised in the selection to ensure that a selected recipient does not inappropriately figure within the national political processes. Due regard will be given to the principle of equitable geographical balance.

## **3. Nominations**

The Executive Director will invite nominations for the Award from United Nations Member States, specialized agencies, UNICEF Country Representatives, Regional Directors and other secretariat offices, and National Committees for UNICEF in order to ensure a broad range of nominations.

## **4. Selection Committee**

The secretariat, in close consultation with the Bureau, will create a Selection Committee comprising up to seven independent, eminent persons who will be knowledgeable about the Award's criteria and who have demonstrated commitment to humanitarian principles.

## **5. Selection process**

The Selection Committee, with the assistance of the secretariat, will receive nominations for the Award through the secretariat. After a comprehensive review and evaluation of the nominees, the Committee will submit to the Executive Board, through the Executive Director and after prior consultation with the Bureau, a single recommendation for approval by the Board.

## **6. Value**

The Award will not necessarily be of monetary value. It may be bestowed as a symbolic appreciation of an individual's or organization's dedication to the cause of children. When of monetary value, the Award will confer no more than \$50,000 in any one year, the amount to be met from regular resources.

## **7. Award ceremony**

The Award will be bestowed at a public ceremony, thereby drawing further attention to the work of the recipient and to the mandate of UNICEF on behalf of children.