

Decree No. (12) of 2000
Establishing the Foundation of the
Zayed International Prize for the Environment¹

We, Maktoum bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Ruler of Dubai,

After perusal of:

The Charter of the Foundation of the Zayed International Prize for the Environment, dated 30 January 1999 and attached to this Decree (the "**Charter**"),

Do hereby issue this Decree.

Article (1)

The following words and expressions will have the meaning indicated opposite each of them unless the context implies otherwise:

Prize: The Zayed International Prize for the Environment.

Prize Patron: Lieutenant General, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Minister of Defence and Crown Prince of Dubai.

Supreme Committee: The Supreme Committee of the Prize.

Article (2)

Pursuant to this Decree, a private foundation named the "Foundation of the Zayed International Prize for the Environment" (the "**Foundation**") is established. The Foundation will have legal personality and full capacity to act in accordance with its objectives and the provisions of this Decree.

Article (3)

The permanent head office of the Foundation will be located in the city of Dubai, the United Arab Emirates.

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¹*Every effort has been made to produce an accurate and complete English version of this legislation. However, for the purpose of its interpretation and application, reference must be made to the original Arabic text. In case of conflict, the Arabic text will prevail.*

Article (4)

The objective of the Prize is: to recognise and acknowledge the outstanding contributions of individuals, groups of individuals, and entities, such as foundations, organisations, associations, federations, or other similar entities, which aim to achieve sustainable utilisation of resources and improvement of the environment, thus ensuring sustainable development, in line with the environmental and development vision of His Highness Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the President of the United Arab Emirates; and with the goals and objectives of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development aiming at protecting and improving the environment to meet the needs of present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Article (5)

The main areas of the Prize include the following:

1. management of fragile ecosystems, such as combating desertification and drought, and increasing green spaces;
2. conservation of the quality and supplies of freshwater resources and application of integrated approaches to develop, manage, and utilise water resources;
3. preservation of biological diversity, and conservation and development of wildlife;
4. conservation of marine environment and development of its biological resources, and integrated management of coastal areas;
5. promoting sustainable agricultural and rural development, and continued development of the areas of nomads;
6. promoting sustainable development of the industry and energy sectors, and controlling pollution resulting from their activities;
7. transferring and introducing environmentally sound technologies into production and resources utilisation processes;
8. protection and enhancement of human health conditions;
9. promoting and raising awareness of environmental education and community participation;
10. promoting international cooperation for the purpose of building environmental capacity in sustainable development;
11. women, the environment, and development; and
12. environmental security issues.

Article (6)

The capital of the Foundation consists of the grant provided by the Prize Patron in the amount of fifteen million US dollars (US\$ 15,000,000.00), and the grants and gifts acceptable to the Prize Patron.

Article (7)

The Foundation will be managed in accordance with this Decree, the Charter, and the bylaws issued in pursuance thereof.

Article (8)

The Foundation will be managed by a Supreme Committee comprised of not less than nine (9) and not more than fifteen (15) members known for their competence and integrity. The Supreme Committee will be formed pursuant to a resolution of the Prize Patron in which he will name the chairman, vice chairman, secretary, and treasurer; and will determine the term of membership.

Article (9)

The Supreme Committee will establish a centre for environmental studies and research, and a centre for environmental information. These centres will be supervised by the Supreme Committee. The implementing bylaw of this Decree will determine their terms of reference, functional structures, and areas of work.

Article (10)

The Supreme Committee will have jurisdiction to:

1. develop the bylaws regulating the work of the Supreme Committee and submit the same to the Prize Patron for approval;
2. propose the annual draft budget of the Foundation and submit the same to the Prize Patron for approval;
3. establish the general and special eligibility Criteria for nomination for the Prize and for selecting winners; and consult on the same, where required, with the competent bodies of the United Nations Organisation, with the Technical Advisory Committee, and with the International Jury;
4. form the Technical Advisory Committee;
5. form the International Jury;

6. establish the General Secretariat of the Prize;
7. issue the bylaws regulating the work of the Technical Advisory Committee and the International Jury, and determining their term of membership, functions, and terms of reference;
8. issue the bylaws regulating the work of the General Secretariat of the Prize and determining the organisational structure of the General Secretariat, job descriptions, and terms of reference;
9. issue the bylaws related to the bonuses and remuneration of members of the Technical Advisory Committee and the International Jury, and to the salaries and bonuses of the General Secretariat's employees;
10. issue the implementing bylaws of the environmental studies and research centre, and the environmental information centre;
11. nominate the individuals, groups of individuals, and entities, such as foundations, organisations, associations, or other similar entities to be awarded the Prize based on the recommendations of the International Jury;
12. exercise any other functions delegated to the Supreme Committee under the Charter; and
13. perform any other duties assigned to the Supreme Committee by the Prize Patron.

Article (11)

Nomination for the Prize is open to individuals, groups of individuals, and entities, such as governmental and non-governmental foundations, organisations, institutes, unions, associations, agencies, and departments. Nomination, grant, and awarding the Prize will be subject to the rules prescribed in the Charter and the bylaws issued in pursuance thereof, and this Decree.

Article (12)

The Prize will be granted once every two (2) years by the Prize Patron on the occasion of the UAE National Environment Day.

Article (13)

Subject to approval of the Prize Patron, a bank account in the name of "Zayed International Prize for the Environment" will be opened in one of the national banks. Transactions in this account will be conducted using an accounting system developed by a competent entity and approved by the Supreme Committee and the Prize Patron.

Article (14)

The expenditure and amount of the Prize may not exceed the revenues collected in the said account within the period of two (2) years.

Article (15)

The Prize will be announced through its registration with the Department of Economic Development, and it will commence the conduct of its business as of the date of that registration.

Article (16)

The Prize will, every two (2) years, provide His Highness the Ruler's Court with the names of members of the Supreme Committee; and a copy of its annual report and financial statements attested by a certified auditor.

Article (17)

Where the property of the Foundation is used for any purpose that contradicts its objectives, or where acts of gross mismanagement of the Prize are committed, in violation of this Decree, the Prize Patron may issue a resolution removing the Supreme Committee and appointing a new Supreme Committee to replace it.

Article (18)

The Foundation will be dissolved and liquidated if it becomes unable to conduct its business or achieve its objectives due to insufficiency of its capital or failure to generate returns on its capital, which prevents it from achieving its objectives.

Article (19)

The Prize will be exempt from all taxes and all government, municipal, and customs fees and duties.

Article (20)

The Prize Patron may amend the Charter as he deems appropriate for the achievement of the objectives of the Prize.

Article (21)

This Decree comes into force on the day on which it is issued, and will be published in the Official Gazette.

Maktoum bin Rashid Al Maktoum

Ruler of Dubai

Issued in Dubai on 1 May 2000

Corresponding to 28 Muharram 1421 A.H.