

Report of the 1st Meeting of the RCA Awards Committee

10th March 2022, WebEx

At the 5th Meeting of the Special Task Force (STF), the Meeting agreed to establish a committee on the RCA Awards with its members comprise THA, VIE, MAL and RCARO, supported by the IAEA and RCA PAC Chair as experts. THA agreed to take the lead on drafting the award criteria. Upon the establishment, the first meeting of the RCA Awards Committee was held on 10th March 2022 virtually, attended by the members (THA, VIE, and RCARO), the IAEA and RCA PAC Chair. The Meeting Agenda is attached as **Annex 1**.

1. Opening

Welcome remarks by the RCA Chair

The RCA Chair, Ms. Suchin Udomsomporn, officially opened the Meeting and welcomed the participants. She thanked the support and cooperation of the Committee to preparing for the draft guide on selecting the RCA Awards and wished a fruitful meeting.

Appointment of Rapporteur

RCARO and THA were appointed as the rapporteurs.

2. Selection of the Chair of the RCA Awards Committee

The RCA Awards Committee recommended THA to officially take the role of the Chair of the Committee.

The Meeting agreed to appoint NR of THA as Chair of the Committee.

3. Review on the Draft of the Guide to Selecting the RCA Awardees

As agreed by the 5th Meeting of the STF, THA drafted the award concept and criteria in advance to the Meeting. Based on the draft, RCARO developed the draft “Guide to Selecting the RCA Awards” that includes the background, purpose, and the categories/criteria/procedures of the Awards, nomination form and work plan. RCARO presented on the summary of the guide as attached in **Annex 2**.

4. Discussion on the Categories, Criteria, and Procedures

The Meeting reviewed the draft guide and discussed related matters in detail.

The Meeting agreed that presenting the RCA Awards to the awardees is an important event featuring the 50th Anniversary of the RCA and highlighted that the awardee candidates should include all those who have made considerable contribution to the development of the RCA, including the past RCA stakeholders who are no more at their positions.

Categories of the RCA Awards

The Committee agreed to categorize the awards into five categories as follows;

- RCA Governance Awards
- RCA Project Awards
- RCA Human Resource Development (HRD) Awards
- RCA Regional Cooperation Awards
- RCA Special Awards.

The detailed information is given in the revised draft guide, attached as **Annex 3**.

Procedures and Criteria of Each RCA Award

The Meeting discussed over the procedures for each RCA Award and agreed that for the three awards (**the RCA Project Awards, RCA HRD Awards, and RCA Regional Cooperation Awards**), RCA GPs will be invited to submit nomination forms. Each RCA GP can nominate up to five nominations for those three categories together.

Awardees to the remaining two awards (**the RCA Governance Awards and RCA Special Awards**) will be considered and selected through a review process of the past records and data, by the RCA Awards Committee. The RCA Awards Committee will conduct a comprehensive analysis based on the set criteria and circulate the final list of awardees to the National RCA Representatives for their consideration and approval.

The Meeting had a long discussion on whether we need additional procedures involving other parties or GPs in the selection process. Considering that more than 100 nominations will be received, and all members of the RCA Chair Committee (past, present and future) are included as members of the RCA Awards Committee, the Meeting agreed that the RCA Awards Committee is the appropriate body to conduct the selection review.

The Meeting agreed with the total number of awards to be up to thirty (30), and the type of potential awardees would be as follows;

Category	Awardees	Number of Awards
RCA Governance Awards	Individuals, groups, institutes and GPs	5
RCA Project Awards	Individuals	5 to 10 (1 to 2 per thematic sector)
RCA HRD Awards	Institutes	5
RCA Regional Cooperation Awards	Institutes	5
RCA Special Awards	Individuals, groups, institutes and GPs	5
TOTAL		Maximum 30 Awards

The Meeting reviewed and discussed criteria for each Award line by line. The guide was revised and updated, finalized according to the conclusion of the discussions as **Annex 3**.

The Meeting agreed on the importance of the RCA Awards in recognizing the commitment by and showing appreciation to all those organizations and individuals who have shown strong commitment to the development of the RCA in its 50 years of history. The Meeting agreed that up to thirty (30) RCA Awards would be presented in a form of a plaque during the Ministerial Conference in September 2022, in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the RCA.

The Meeting agreed on the five categories of the RCA Awards as below;

- **RCA Governance Awards**
- **RCA Project Awards**
- **RCA Human Resource Development (HRD) Awards**
- **RCA Regional Cooperation Awards**
- **RCA Special Awards.**

The Meeting agreed on the following procedures of each RCA Award.

- **RCA Project Awards, RCA HRD Awards, and RCA Regional Cooperation Awards:** the RCA GPs will be invited to submit nominations of up to five (three categories together)
- **RCA Governance Awards and RCA Special Awards:** review and selection process will be undertaken by the RCA Awards Committee based on the past records and data.

The final list of Awardees will be circulated to the RCA NRs for their approval.

The Meeting recommended the 44th RCA NRM to review and approve the Guide to Selecting RCA Awards (Annex 3).

5. Other Matters

In regard to the Guest of Honor (who presents the awards at the ceremony), the IAEA mentioned that a representative of the IAEA, with a high possibility of the Director General, could be present at the ceremony, as long as his/her time is reserved well in advance.

The Meeting recommended that the awardees should, as much as possible, attend the ceremony in person to celebrate the occasion. The Meeting noted that virtual access to the ceremony should be available and for those who cannot attend the ceremony face-to-face should be able to deliver virtual messages in response to the receipt of the RCA Awards.

6. Closing

The Meeting agreed to present the Guide as well as work plan of the Committee to the upcoming 5th Meeting of the STF and agreed to convene the discussion again after the 44th NRM.