



FACT SHEET

Lee Kuan Yew Water Prize

The Lee Kuan Yew Water Prize recognises outstanding contributions towards solving global water problems by either applying groundbreaking technologies or implementing innovative policies and programmes which benefit humanity. This international award is named after Singapore's first Prime Minister and present Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew, who through his foresight and leadership, has enabled Singapore to attain sustainable water supply.

A total of 39 nominations from 19 countries were received when nominations for Lee Kuan Yew Water Prize 2009 closed on 31 October 2008. The nominations showcased not only a wide spectrum of water solutions but also new disciplines in water research and applications.

The range includes application of innovative technologies, implementation of revolutionary water policies and programmes, management of water resources, hydrology and ecology, water research, as well as the administration of humanitarian aid. Compared with last year, 2009's spectrum has also been extended to more niche areas, such as water microbiology, disinfection and used water treatment. All showed a strong understanding of today's needs and showcased innovative yet sustainable solutions.

Almost half of the total number of nominations come from the Asia-Pacific region that include China, India, Japan, Korea, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Malaysia and Singapore.



Nominations of the Water Prize go through a rigorous selection process by the Nominating Committee headed by Mr Tan Gee Paw, Chairman of PUB Singapore. The winner of the Water Prize will then be decided by the Prize Council. Chaired by Dr Tony Tan, Chairman of the National Research Foundation, Singapore, the Prize Council comprises of individuals of high international standing from academia, international organizations and multi-national companies.

Named after Singapore's first Prime Minister and present Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew, the award comes with a cash prize of SGD300,000, an award certificate and a gold medallion. The award is solely sponsored by the Singapore Millennium Foundation, a philanthropic body supported by Temasek Holdings that has pledged SGD1.5 million over five years since 2008.

The award ceremony and banquet for Lee Kuan Yew Water Prize 2009 will be held at the Istana – the official residence and office of Singapore's President – on 24 June during the second Singapore International Water Week. Professor Lettinga will deliver the Singapore Water Lecture at the Water Week on 23 June.

Dr Andrew Benedek was awarded the inaugural Lee Kuan Yew Water Prize in 2008 for his outstanding work in pioneering the development of low-pressure membranes in water treatment. This dedicated researcher and successful technopreneur has redefined the way water can be treated. He has shown how drinking water can be produced from different water sources, even those that are highly polluted. It is a big leap that benefits mankind, both for those in developed and developing countries.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Chairman

Mr Tan Gee Paw

Chairman, PUB Singapore

Committee Members

1. Mr Jean-Michel Herrewyn

Chief Executive Officer, Veolia Water Solutions and Technologies, France

2. Mr Daniel McCarthy

President and Chief Executive Officer, Black & Veatch Water, USA

3. Prof Perry McCarty

Professor Emeritus of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Stanford University, USA

4. Prof Norihito Tambo

Professor, Hokkaido University, Japan

5. Prof Bertil Anderson

Provost, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore



LEE KUAN YEW WATER PRIZE COUNCIL

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Dr Tony Tan

Chairman, National Research Foundation, Singapore

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Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School, USA

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President, Mitsui Chemicals, Japan

4. Prof Tommy Koh

Ambassador-at-Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore

5. Prof Lim Pin

Chairman, Singapore Millennium Foundation, Singapore