

## Call for nominations of Fellow and Honorary members

### BACKGROUND

WIOMSA is inviting nominations of candidates for the WIOMSA Fellow and Honorary members program. Fellow and Honorary memberships are awarded to individuals in recognition of their exemplary/ outstanding/ distinguished contribution to the development of marine science research in the region and/or problem-solving and actions geared towards improving the management of coastal and marine environment in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region.

These awards are designed both to recognize individual scientists/researchers and practitioners for their track record of achievements, to inspire outstanding and emerging scientists and practitioners and cultivate a healthy competition for quality and excellence in the region. The awards also raise the profile of the scientists and practitioners in the region and raise awareness about their work to a wider audience across the globe.

The awards will be accorded by the Board of Trustees and will be announced on **31 July 2020**.

From 2007 to date six individuals have been conferred Honorary membership award and nine Fellow membership award.

We encourage you to think broadly when considering your nominees. Please note that these awards are open to anyone involved in research, capacity building, conservation and management of the coastal and marine environment in the WIO region. These include individuals from the physical and social sciences, including fields such as oceanography, economics, environmental law and policy, as well as engineering, natural resource management, advocacy and conservation education, and communications.

Descriptions of the nomination process and nomination forms are attached. It is important to read these before determining your nominations. The deadline for submission of nominations is **30<sup>th</sup> May 2020**.

We hope you share our commitment, interest and enthusiasm to award different stakeholders working in our coastal and marine environment.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

### ***Fellow membership***

Fellow members will be selected based on their contribution to marine science (with respect to research and education) in one or more of the following ways:

- Recognized exceptional scholarly activity and/or exceptional service to the scientific community at the national, regional and international levels.
- Significant leadership in an individual's field of specialization

The Fellow should have an International and a Regional-wide recognition.

### **Eligibility for Fellow membership**

To be eligible for Fellow membership, the nominee must fulfil the following:

- Consistency in the production of scholarly materials (in the last 5 years) which has contributed to the advancement of marine science.
- Contributions to the research environment both locally, nationally, regionally and internationally. This can include the development of a major research project(s) and other forms of services in the marine research field
- Attracted external (to the WIO) and international funding for the executing of projects in the WIO region
- Made a significant contribution to promoting inter- and trans-disciplinary research through several projects;
- Contributions to the training and education of highly qualified personnel (e.g.: undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and technical staff)
- Recognition by professional societies, community organizations or other external research bodies;
- Satisfy at least one of the following:
  - Citizen or Resident in the WIO region
  - Have spent at least 5 years in the WIO region actively engaged in research related to Marine Sciences or in directing, teaching or training of persons in the field of marine sciences in the region

### ***Honorary membership***

Honorary Membership is conferred upon individuals who have rendered a notable service to marine science development in the Region including improving the management of coastal and marine resources in the region.

### **Eligibility for Honorary membership**

To be eligible for Honorary membership, the nominee must fulfil the following:

- Played a key role in the initiation of important programmes/projects that have made a significant impact on poverty alleviation in the coastal communities and towards conservation of the coastal and marine environment;
- Provided leadership that have contributed to significant improvement of the management of the coastal and marine environment
- Contribute significantly to the management process as well as policy formulation at the local, national, regional, and global levels.
- Made a significant contribution to human capital development

- Raise significant funding to support research, conservation and development efforts in the region

The Honorary membership is open to individuals from within and outside the region.

## **NOMINATION**

Anyone can nominate up to two individuals for each of the awards. All nominations shall be made using the provided forms. Nominations are made online (<https://www.wiomsa.org/our-work/recognizing-excellence/nomination-form-for-fellow-and-honorary-memberships-wiomsa-emerging-scientist-award/>)

Please note that individuals may be nominated in more than one award. The nomination form is very simple and requires you to provide your reasons for nominating the candidates for the awards. The information in the form serves as a recommendation for the candidate.

**Self-nominations or nominations by family members will not be accepted. Serving WIOMSA Board members and former awardees are not eligible for nomination.**

Nominees will be contacted directly by the WIOMSA Secretariat and requested to provide additional information about themselves and their activities.

## **SELECTION**

The award recipients will be chosen by a selection committee as follows:

- i) The WIOMSA Board of Trustees will constitute a three-member Selection Advisory Committee, which will review the submissions of all nominees and recommend to the Board who should be awarded the Fellow or Honorary membership. In most cases, members of the Committee have been the current Honorary and Fellow members.
- ii) The recommendations of the Selection Advisory Committee, together with appropriate documentation, are referred to the Board, which shall select and announce the selected Fellow or Honorary members.