

Capacity Building in International Relations ***Swiss Leadership Award in International Relations 2011*** **Announcement and Application**

Background and objectives

Since 2001, the project *Capacity Building in International Relations* (CABIR) has been offering training courses on human rights, humanitarian law, international economics and negotiation for young government officials from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. Following the success of these courses and a growing CABIR alumni network, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies have decided to create the *Swiss Leadership Award in International Relations*. The award has the objective to reward and acknowledge outstanding professional leadership, to foster a process of self-awareness among CABIR Alumni and to encourage committed officials who are working in challenging environments.

The prize of the award is a one-week working trip to Switzerland. The trip offers interface opportunities between CABIR leaders, the Swiss government, the international organisations in Geneva and the Diplomatic Missions of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia in Geneva. A total of nine winners will be selected in 2011.

Criteria for Swiss Leadership Award

The award is given to CABIR Alumni who have proven personal qualities for leadership and commitment to reform in their countries. Applicants for the Swiss Leadership Award must be CABIR Alumni.

Criteria for evaluating the applications for the Swiss Leadership Award include:

Activities

- Professional or extra-curricular activities in one of the fields of human rights, humanitarian law, international economics and negotiation;
- Professional or extra-curricular activities contributing to reform;
- A proven track record of initiative, creativity and success.

Performance

- The extent to which professional or extra-curricular activities set an example to others;
- Performance in CABIR courses and CABIR Alumni activities.

Personal qualities

- Authority through charisma, personality and self-awareness;
- Constructive application of a position of power and influence;
- Interpersonal and diplomatic skills;
- Creativity in problem solving;
- Capacity to identify win-win situations;

- Outstanding recognised performance and leadership.

The winners will be selected on the basis of the written application and an interview. The selection process also has the objective to foster self-awareness and evaluation among CABIR Alumni.

Interviews are not essential but highly recommended. For CABIR Alumni who are currently posted abroad, a telephone interview may be arranged.

The one-week trip to Switzerland is scheduled for 4 - 8 July 2011. It is a working trip and selected candidates should not need to take holidays from their employers in this period. All expenses concerning flight, accommodation and pocket money will be covered.

Instructions for application

Applicants for the Swiss Leadership Award must do the following to apply to the leadership award:

- Submit a curriculum vitae;
- Compose a two-page essay answering the following questions:
 - (1) Why do you think you are an outstanding leader and future leader of your country?
 - (2) What is your proof of being an outstanding leader?
 - (3) What are your key objectives when travelling to Switzerland for one week?
- In a cover letter, provide the contact details (name, position, institutions, telephone, e-mail) of two referees who are familiar with your professional performance or your activities described in the letter of motivation

Applications for the Swiss Leadership Award 2011 must be submitted to
the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

by **Sunday 15 May 2011**

by e-mail: philippe.decastro@graduateinstitute.ch

Applicants from Georgia should be available for interviews on 25 May 2011.
Applicants from Armenia should be available for interviews on 26 May 2011.
Applicants from Azerbaijan should be available for interviews on 27 May 2011.