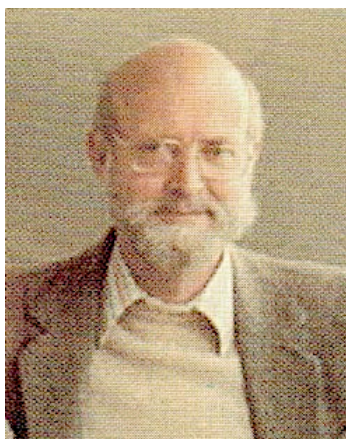


## Dr Olle Hansson Award 2022



The Award recognises the work of an individual from a developing country who best demonstrates the qualities of Dr Olle Hansson in promoting the rational use of drugs.

*'It is time to act! It is time to act for all of us who believe in human dignity and justice'.*

**- Olle Hansson**

Dr Olle Hansson was an icon of the activist medical profession and wrote a classic in medical investigative exposure. The book was called 'INSIDE CIBA GEIGY' and published in Penang, Malaysia in 1989. It is an amazing piece and we like to quote from the foreword written by Anwar Fazal, former President of International Organisation of Consumers Union (IOCU), co-founder of Health Action International (HAI) and the instigator for the idea of a Peoples Health Assembly.

*'Olle was a very special inspiration to us. His courage, his competence, his commitment were rare in a profession that is more often too comfortable or too implicated to speak out against a powerful industry.' His passing on 23 May 1985 was mourned not by words but by a series of actions that will continue to inspire those working to see a more responsible pharmaceutical industry worldwide.'*

The Award was first given in 1987. The recipients included Dr Mira Shiva of India; Dr Alfredo Bengzon of the Philippines; Prof Dzulkifli Abdul Razak of USM, Malaysia; and Dr K Balasubramaniam.

**To mark the 40th anniversary of HAIAP, we announce the Dr Olle Hansson Award again.**

**Nominations are invited for the Dr Olle Hansson Award.**

This Award for 2022 recognizes the work of an individual from a low or middle income country according to the reference list <sup>1</sup> who has contributed the most to:

1. Promoting the concepts of essential medicines and their rational use, and access to vaccines
2. Increasing the awareness among consumers of the dangers of irrational and hazardous medicinal drugs and unethical marketing.

Nominations for the award, which can come from any individual or organization, should contain:

1. A one-page biodata of the candidate (including educational background, positions held, affiliations, honours and awards).
2. A 500-word statement of the nominee's qualities and achievements in the field of medicines' safety and access to essential medicines and their rational use. Please provide:
  - a. documentation of work done.
  - b. A recent photograph of the nominee.
3. Two referee's names, affiliations and addresses.

### Closing Date

Nominations will close on November 30 2021.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/guidance/low-and-middle-income-countries>

### **Announcement of Award winner**

The recipient will be chosen by an international panel of judges, and notified by the 23 March. The Award will be announced to the public at a virtual ceremony on Dr Olle Hansson Day, May 23 2022. Arrangements will be made for the Award Certificate to be available for presentation to the successful candidate at the ceremony. Opportunities will be explored for funding the Awardee's travel to developing country settings to meet and talk with local activists or to organise webinar meetings.

**Please send nominations to:** Beverleyfsnell@gmail.com

Health Action International Asia-Pacific (HAIAP)

**The award**, which is given annually, is in the form of a **commemorative certificate** and a **special oration and ceremony**.

### **Management**

The Dr Olle Hansson Award is managed by Health Action International Asia - Pacific (HAIAP).\*

### **About Dr Olle Hansson**

The Award is named in honour of Dr Olle Hansson, a Swedish paediatric neurologist internationally known for his advocacy on behalf of SMON (Subacute myelo-optic neuropathy) victims who were paralysed or blinded after using cloquinol, an antidiarrhoeal drug. Dr Olle Hansson was a powerful campaigner against unethical promotion and marketing of medicinal drugs. In many ways, he represented the conscience of the medical profession.

His influence was felt not only in Sweden and Japan, which have thousands of SMON victims, but also in Europe and developing countries. Dr Olle Hansson will be remembered by all who campaign for the rational use of medicinal drugs. Although he died of cancer on May 23, 1985, at the age of 49, he remains a continuing source of inspiration for public interest workers everywhere. May 23 is commemorated each year as 'Dr Olle Hansson Day'. For more information about Dr Olle Hansson, see resources.<sup>i ii</sup>

\* HAIAP is a network of organizations and individuals involved in health and pharmaceutical issues. HAIAP upholds health as a fundamental human right and aspires for a just and equitable world in which there will be among others regular access to essential medicines to all who need them. HAIAP actively promotes the concept of Essential Medicines and their rational and economic use through advocacy, research education and action campaigns. Website: [www.haiasiapacific.org](http://www.haiasiapacific.org)

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<sup>i</sup> <http://www.haiasiapacific.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Olle-Hansson-Day-May-23.pdf>

<sup>ii</sup> <http://www.haiasiapacific.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Olle-Hansson-Gopal-Dabade2005.pdf>