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1

AN ARAB BOOKER PRIZE

DONOR DOCUMENT

1. A literary prize for an original fictional work in the Arabic language is proposed. The Prize should be awarded on literary quality for a work of integrity and international relevance.
2. The Prize should be Arab owned, multilaterally funded and internationally facilitated, and there should be an institutional link with the Booker Prize Trust. Although there are other prizes for contemporary Arabic literature, including fiction, it is proposed that this Prize should have a unique authority.
3. The management of the Prize should have links with European (both UK and mainland) and US publishers, with the objective of commissioning the translation of the prize winning work into English, French, German, Italian and Spanish.
4. Authority should be vested in an international Board of Trustees, of whom half should be women, and the committee of judges should include one third under the age of forty.
5. The Annual Award should be, like the Man Booker award, a gala event, held in successive years in different Arab cities. In the second and subsequent years the award of the Prize could be linked with the launch of the translation or translations of a previous prize winning work.