

## PRESS RELEASE

## Seychelles Founder-President H.E. Sir James Mancham Presented with GEP Global Best Award by Sri Lankan Prime Minister



*December 11, 2016:* The first-ever Global Energy Parliament Global Best Award was presented to His Excellency Sir James Mancham, KBE, the Founding President of the Republic of Seychelles. The Hon. Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Shri. Ranil Wickremesinghe, presented the Award to His Excellency on December 11, 2016 at his residence, Temple Trees, Colombo.

In response to receiving the Award, His Excellency said, "All life has a secret purpose and therefore dignity and respect of life are essential ingredients for harmonious living. Every life needs a secure and fearless environment, not only for healthy living but for genuine growth, nourishment, care and concern for each other enriched by natural dependency.

What is taking place in Sri Lanka today is of great relevance to what is taking place in Seychelles. Today, I am glad that more and more people are becoming aware of the importance of reconciliation in our sadly divided world."

An international jury unanimously had selected His Excellency as the winner, in recognition of a lifetime of achievement as a global ambassador of peace and statesmanship.



life and nations on this planet.

**H.E. Sir James R. Mancham** has devoted his life to the causes of true and lasting global peace, reconciliation, inter-religious and inter-cultural harmony, non-proliferation, and statesmanship. He has always been a vocal critic of nuclear arms and warfare.

Born in a small island nation, yet never in the same place for long during his incessant world travel schedule and love for all cultures and peoples, His Excellency is perhaps in a unique position amongst global leaders to understand the fragility and the interconnectedness of all

His Excellency was born in Seychelles in 1939 and educated as a lawyer in London. Full of charisma and vibrance, H.E. Mancham was very popular with the people and became Seychelles' first President after Seychelles received British independence.

H.E. has always been a messenger of global peace. H.E. is a Member of the Club de Madrid, the World Future Council, and the European Centre for Peace and Development. A widely published author of dozens of books and his own magazine on global politics and Seychelles, and thousands of articles, H.E. has also founded the Centre for Peace Studies and Reconciliation in Seychelles, and has been given many distinguished awards and honors over his lifetime, most notably the URI-Africa Peace Award (2016), the Gusi Peace Prize (2011), the International Jurists Award for Peace (2010).

## **About the Award**

The GEP 'Global Best Award' is instituted to honour of the global best individual, institution, or movement, in a particular thematic area.

The Global Best Award is the highest honour offered by the Global Energy Parliament. It is selected by an international jury headed by Dr. C.V. Ananda Bose (Former Secretary to the Government of India).

The Global Energy Parliament (GEP) is an international body of citizens committed to a self-sustaining, peaceful and happy existence for human beings and the universe. GEP was founded by His Holiness Jagadguru Swami Isa, head of the Isa Viswa Prajnana Trust (IVPT), an international organization holding Consultative Status to the United Nations ECOSOC.

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