

SEYCHELLES

Date of Elections: 7 August 1983

Purpose of Elections

Elections were held for all the elective seats in Parliament on the normal expiry of the members' term of office.

Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Parliament of the Republic of Seychelles, the People's Assembly, is composed of 25 members: 23 elected and 2 appointed by the President of the Republic to represent the Inner Islands and Outlying Islands, respectively. All members have 4-year terms of office.

Electoral System

All citizens of Seychelles who are at least 18 years of age are entitled to vote. Disqualified are the insane, persons convicted of crime and those owing allegiance to a foreign State.

Qualified electors who are members of the Seychelles People's Progressive Front (SPPF) are eligible to be Assembly candidates. The parliamentary mandate is incompatible with the offices of President of the Republic and Minister of the Government.

The 23 elected members of the People's Assembly are chosen in single-member constituencies ("electoral areas") by simple majority vote.

By-elections are held to fill elective seats which fall vacant between general elections, unless these occur within six months of the dissolution of the Assembly.

General Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

As at previous legislative elections (June 1979), those of 1983 were again open solely to members of the left-wing SPPF, the country's only legal political organization. Thirty candidates stood for election, 17 of them unopposed. Two other members were appointed by the President of the Republic, France Albert Rene, to represent migrant people of the outer islands. President Rene heads the seven-member Council of Ministers.

Statistics

*1. Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats
in the People's Assembly*

Number of registered electors	34,908
Voters	20,705 (59.3%)
Political Group	Number of Seats
Seychelles People's Progressive Front (SPPF)	25