

## **SEYCHELLES**

**Date of Elections:** 6 December 1987

### **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 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 persons infirm of mind, those convicted of crime and those owing allegiance to a foreign State.

Electoral registers are revised periodically by a review committee. Voting is not compulsory.

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.

### **Background and Outcome of the Elections**

The 1987 general elections were contested by 36 candidates (20% more than for the previous [August 1983] poll). Of these, nine were incumbents and ten were unopposed. All were members of the socialist Seychelles People's Progressive Front (SPPF), the country's sole legal party.

On polling day, seven of the incumbents and four women met with success. The Assembly as a whole was sworn in on 9 December. At the SPPF's annual congress held from 10 to 12 December, President of the Republic France Albert Rene was re-elected as the Party's secretary-general. He had reshuffled the eight-member Council of Ministers on 19 September 1986.

Statistics

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

Number of registered electors. . . . .	43,051	
Voters. . . . .	28,410	(66%)

<u>Political Group</u>	<u>Number of Seats</u>
Seychelles People's Progressive Front (SPPF)	25

2. *Distribution of Members of Parliament  
according to Sex*

Men. . . . .	21
Women. . . . .	4
	25