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SUMMARY OF THE NATIONAL REPORT SUBMITTED BY SEYCHELLES\*

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SUMMARY OF THE SEYCHELLES NATIONAL PAPER

The Republic of the Seychelles, one of the smallest nations in the world, with a total population of less than 65,000, situated remotely in the centre of the Indian Ocean, has formulated an Integrated Energy Project designed, firstly, to provide its outer islands with alternative energy packages of 50 - 100 Kw and, secondly, to investigate a macro alternative energy supply, such as OTEC.

Should this project be wholly successful, it will enable the entire Seychelles Archipelago to become totally independent of fossil fuels for the generation of power supplies and Seychelles could be the first nation in the world to depend to a major degree on new and renewable energy sources.

The project is scheduled over three phases of 3, 10 and 7 years, respectively, and will investigate solar energy, wind energy, biogas and producer gas as the various options of the outer island's energy packages. For the main islands, containing 85 per cent of the total population, it is proposed to investigate sea-based energy sources, of which the Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion System appears to fit most suitably into the environment.

A primary essential of the project is the generation of Seychellois counterpart technologists, together with the scientific infrastructure required for them to operate. Further, the provision of overseas bursaries for Seychellois will be a major contribution to the success or otherwise of the project, as will continuing and expanding liaison with other countries, primarily in the African and Asia/Pacific regions.

Even for the production of macropower facility, the scale, of some 10 MW, could be regarded by most nations as pilot-plant scale and, it is hoped, that Seychelles, if a suitable site can be proved, will be regarded by manufacturers as a test-bed for third-generation producers.

The project had already been started and work is being carried out on both solar flat-plate collectors and on engines run on producer gas.

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