

**South African Dr. Imtiaz Sooliman Awarded Prestigious Global Citizen Award
London, 11 November 2016**

Humanitarian and founder of the Gift of the Givers Foundation, Dr. Imtiaz Sooliman, has been awarded the prestigious Global Citizen Award by the international advisory firm Henley & Partners. The award ceremony took place in London on Friday, 11 November 2016, and marked the closing of the 10th annual Global Residence and Citizenship Conference at the iconic Savoy Hotel.

The Global Citizen Award was given to Dr. Sooliman in recognition of his tireless efforts to develop Gift of the Givers Foundation into Africa's largest disaster relief organization — raising more than USD 150 million in live-saving aid for 42 countries around the world including war-ravaged states such as Syria, Libya, Sudan, Somalia, and Bosnia. His team of 200 provide medical assistance, equipment and supplies, as well as high energy and protein supplements, food and water to millions of people each year. During the aftermath of the 2010 Haiti earthquake, the organization sent four rescue teams and aid materials to the country. At one point in 2011, they were the only international aid group providing food parcels to Somalia, airlifting 180 tons and shipping 2000 tons of aid.

Even more remarkable is the organization's cutting edge innovation and invention. The Gift of the Givers designed and developed the world's first and only containerized hospital comprising 28 units as well as the world's first groundnut-soya high energy and protein supplement which is used in the treatment of severe malnutrition, HIV/AIDS, TB, cancer and other life-threatening and debilitating conditions. The foundation also established Africa's largest open source computer lab. In Syria, which is the main focus of the foundation's relief efforts at the moment, they have erected two hospitals and are running a program to upgrade and transfer their skills to doctors, nurses and other medical personnel.

Dr. Christian H. Kälin, Group Chairman of Henley & Partners, says the Global Citizen Award is given each year to an inspirational individual who has made an extraordinary contribution towards improving the global community. "Dr. Sooliman is an exceptionally worthy recipient of the award as his work is not only visionary but also innovative in many ways. He has demonstrated extraordinary courage and commitment, and the work of his foundation has had a significant impact on the lives of the most vulnerable in our global community. I believe these are the most important reasons why our Award Committee has given this year's award to Dr. Sooliman."

The Global Citizen Award consists of a specially made commemorative medal, an award certificate signed by the Chairman of the independent Award Committee and a USD 50,000 monetary prize, of which USD 25,000 is donated to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and USD 25,000 is given to a charity of the recipient's choice.

Upon receiving the award, Dr. Sooliman thanked Henley & Partners, saying the accolade was an important acknowledgement of the significant work being done by African non-governmental organizations (NGOs) internationally. “This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the continent and all that we can do. Being honored with a prestigious award like this means we have the global stamp of approval which helps build faith and confidence in others to support African NGOs and our work in the future,” he said.

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Notes to Editors

About the Global Citizen Award

The annual laureate of the Global Citizen Award[®] is chosen by an independent Award Committee through a majority decision. The Award Committee is comprised of the following distinguished individuals:

- Her Royal Highness Princess Firyal of Jordan
- Her Excellency Marie Louise Coleiro Preca, President of the Republic of Malta
- Senator Joëlle Garriaud-Maylam, Secretary of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defense and Armed Forces, Senate of France
- Professor Dr. Khalid Koser OBE, Executive Director of GCERF and Vice-Chairman of the Advisory Council on Migration, World Economic Forum, Geneva
- Fr. Dr. Marek Urban CSsR, Councillor of the Henley & Partners Foundation, Krakow
- Namira Salim, Artist, Polar Explorer and Virgin Galactic Founder Astronaut, Monaco
- Leigh Foster, Chief of Events, Campaigns and Goodwill Ambassadors, UNHCR, Geneva

About Henley & Partners

Henley & Partners is the global leader in residence and citizenship planning. Each year, hundreds of wealthy individuals, families and their advisors rely on its expertise and experience in this area. The firm’s highly qualified professionals work together as one team in over 25 offices worldwide.

The concept of residence and citizenship planning was created by Henley & Partners in the 1990s. As globalization has expanded, residence and citizenship have become topics of significant interest among the increasing number of internationally mobile entrepreneurs and investors whom they proudly serve every day.

The firm also runs a leading government advisory practice which has raised more than USD 6 billion in foreign direct investment. The firm has been involved in strategic consulting and the design, set-up and operation of the world's most successful residence and citizenship programs.

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Media Images

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