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Seán Cleary is Chairman of Strategic Concepts (Pty) Ltd, Vice Chair of FutureWorld Foundation, and Director of several Companies in a number of countries. He studied social sciences and law at the Universities of Cape Town and South Africa, and has an MBA from Henley.

He is on the Faculty of the Parmenides Foundation and lectures on corporate strategy, conflict resolution, international law, development and national security. He chairs the Advisory Board of the Global Economic Symposium; is a Board member of the Salzburg Global Seminar; a Trustee of the South African Foundation for Conciliation; and a Strategic Adviser to the World Economic Forum.

He served in the South African Navy before a diplomatic career in Iran, the USA and Namibia, where he initiated negotiations between Namibia's political parties, the release of political prisoners and adoption of a Bill of Rights. He served on committees preparing the South African Peace Accord and chaired the Working Group on the Code of Conduct for Political Parties and Organizations; was a Member of the Business Steering Group of the New Programme for Africa's Development, Chair of the Advisory Board of Operation Hope, a Board Member of LEAD International; the International Foundation for Electoral Systems, the Rocky Mountain Institute and Carbon War Room; and served on national Advisory Committees in Namibia, and as Senior Adviser to the Arab Business Council.

He has received academic and public service awards; been published in South African, European and U.S. journals; co-authored, with Thierry Malleret, *Resilience to Risk* (2006), and *Global Risks* (2007), and contributed chapters to several others, including *Learning from Catastrophes* (2009).