

RB honoured with 2012 Crans Montana Award

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Rupiah Banda

The former President of Zambia, Rupiah Banda, has been honoured by the Crans Montana Forum with the 2012 Prix de la Fondation, which has been awarded to him in recognition of his achievements in implementing and promoting democracy.

The award was presented to the former President on 21 October following the 14th Homeland and Global Security Forum, at which President Banda had presented a key note speech on the rule of law, transparency and anti-corruption.

The Crans Montana Forum is a Swiss-based international organisation that was founded in 1986 and continues to be based on the founding fathers' philosophy "Committed to a more humane and impartial world". The organisation works for the promotion of international cooperation and stability, equity and security.

Past African recipients of the prestigious Prix de la Fondation have been Kenyan Prime Minister, Raila Amollo Odinga, and former President of Ghana, Jerry Rawlings. Other high profile recipients of the award have been US President Barack Obama and Chancellor of Germany, Angela Merkel.

Rupiah Banda served as President of Zambia from 2008-2011. Prior to this he was Zambia's ambassador to the United Nations, ambassador to the United States, and then Zambian Vice President. Since retiring from politics President Banda has served as a Visiting President-in-Residence at Boston University and has participated in election monitoring efforts with the Carter Foundation.

Accepting the award President Banda said:

"I learned a great deal during my time as President of Zambia, and I intend to continue reflecting and sharing these observations with the hope that subsequent generations will be able to overcome many of the challenges we faced... And so, in accepting this award, I believe it would only be fair to dedicate it in the name of the Zambian people, to whom I wish great success, prosperity, and good luck today and into the future."