



# NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

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## **NDI OBSERVER DELEGATION TO MONITOR NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS IN PAKISTAN**

WASHINGTON, DC, OCTOBER 1, 1993 -- The National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) will sponsor a 35-member international observer delegation to the October 6 National and October 9 Provincial Assembly elections in Pakistan. The delegation, led by Canadian Member of Parliament Dr. Maurice Foster and NDI President Kenneth D. Wollack, includes parliamentarians, political party leaders regional specialists and election experts from 15 countries in Africa, Europe, the Middle East, Asia and the Americas. Voters will choose assembly members who will, in turn, select the next Pakistani prime minister.

NDI previously sent delegations to Pakistan's 1988 and 1990 elections. NDI has been welcomed by Pakistan's interim government, political parties and civic leaders. "Through our presence, we hope to demonstrate the international community's support for free and fair elections and the democratization process in Pakistan," said Wollack. The Institute conducted a pre-election mission in early September and has had a six-member team in Pakistan during the past month. The team is observing the political campaign and assisting Pakistani civic groups monitoring the elections.

The international delegation will arrive in Islamabad on October 2 for briefings with national representatives of the major political parties, election and government officials, journalists, and other observers of Pakistani politics. The delegation will then divide into teams to visit various parts of Pakistan to observe the voting and counting process. Following the National Assembly elections, the delegation will issue a statement on its findings on October 8, 1993 in Islamabad.

Up to 20 members of the delegation will remain in Pakistan to observe the Provincial Assembly elections. Their observations, as well as the work conducted in the immediate post-election period, will form the basis for a final report that the Institute will complete after the elections.

For further information, contact Karen Clark at the NDI office in the Marriot Hotel in Islamabad at 92-51-826121, extension 531 (phone and fax), or Michael Stoddard at NDI Washington, 202-328-3136.

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