



NEWS RELEASE

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

1717 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Suite 503
Washington, D.C. 20036

(202) 328-3136 FAX (202) 939-3166
Telex 5106015068 NDIIA

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CONTACT: LIONEL JOHNSON
Nairobi Hilton
Tel. 334000

NDI SPONSORS MISSION TO THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

In response to invitations from a range of political and civic leaders in Kenya, the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) will conduct a mission to the Republic of Kenya from February 3-7 to objectively assess the political environment and discuss preparations for multiparty elections. The delegation will meet with government officials, political party and civic leaders, and members of the diplomatic corps.

NDI President J. Brian Atwood will lead the five-member NDI delegation, composed of experts from Barbados, Canada, the United States and Zambia. **"Our mission takes place at an important phase of Kenya's transition to multiparty democracy"** Atwood said. **"It is not the delegation's purpose to be critical of Kenya. Rather, it is to enhance confidence in the future electoral process by providing assurances that the international community stands ready to assist in this process."**

The NDI mission to Kenya builds upon NDI's growing democratic development programs in countries throughout the African continent, including Botswana, Liberia, Namibia, Senegal, and South Africa. On January 16, 1992, Namibian Foreign Minister Theo-Ben Gurirab had this to say about NDI program activity in Namibia: "The National Democratic Institute was among the prominent international organizations which were closely associated with the democratic transformation of our country from apartheid colonialism to the independent, democratic and sovereign Republic that it is today."

A comprehensive report by the delegation will be prepared and distributed shortly following its visit.

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