

**Ken Wollack Remarks  
NDI's Madeleine K. Albright Grant Luncheon  
May 1, 2006**

**We have assembled here to recognize great strides women have made in the political arena and to honor a unique group of women that has made an unprecedented effort to bridge divisions in the city of Mostar, in Bosnia-Herzegovina in order to empower its women and improve the lives of its citizens. That is the celebratory side of our gathering, but there is a different side as well: the hard reality that the struggle for broader involvement of women in politics—at all levels, and everywhere—goes on against tremendous odds. We are assembled here because we desire change: a sea change. An attitudinal Change. A generational change.**

**This event is part of a larger global campaign, the Win With Women Global Initiative, which was launched in 2003 and designed to promote the kind of political party reform that will provide real avenues for women's political leadership.**

**I know of no other organization that has had sustained programs for women in as many countries throughout the world as NDI. However, this would not be possible without a global network of partners that includes governments, intergovernmental organizations and other nongovernmental groups. This has truly been a collaborate effort. We have benefited from our cooperation with: the International Republican Institute, Inter-Parliamentary Union, UNDP, the IPU, International IDEA, the OAS, the British Council, Socialist International, Global Summit of Women, Women's Foreign Policy Group, OUP, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Women for Women International, CARE, Women's Campaign International, the State University of New York/Albany, UNIFEM, Vital Voices, the Initiative for Inclusive Security, the Council of Women World Leaders, ABA/CEELI, the Liberal International, World Learning, the Women's Environmental and Development Organization and the Council of Europe.**

**I want to thank our chairman, Madeleine Albright and board member Geraldine Ferraro for their leadership of the Win With Women Campaign, as well as their leadership at NDI. I want to recognize NDI Vice President Jean Dunn, who is, in addition to her day job of running the day-to-day operations of NDI, has conceived, designed and managed this effort. Jean was ably assisted by Kristin Haffert, who coordinate our women's programs, Tammy Stolen, our Development Manager and many other NDI staff members.**

**I would like to express our thanks to the supporters of this event who are listed in your program and acknowledge with great appreciation those who have supported the Institute's women's political leadership programs worldwide—the National Endowment for Democracy, USAID and the Department of State. We are deeply grateful for the support we have received from four administrations, Republican and Democratic alike, and from the U.S. Congress.**