

**Remarks of The Hon. Abator Thomas
50/50 Group
National Democratic Institute – Madeleine K. Albright Grant**

**Washington, D.C.
October 24, 2007**

We at 50/50 are so grateful to NDI for this generous grant. It will help us in so many ways – reaching out to women across the country and by our example, I pray, to people throughout Africa.

You know, long before 50/50 was founded, the group existed in the minds of Sierra Leonean women. This is why it has grown so quickly and resonated with so many people. I think what we are doing is the heart of democracy – turning thoughts into deed, and empowering and liberating the people who dared to think this way.

This grant will advance our idea and our hopes. To show our appreciation, the 50/50 Group would like to present this gift to NDI. It is the logo of our 50/50 Group within the shape of our country, Sierra Leone. We thank you all.

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