

News Release



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NDI TO SEND INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION TO CHILE ELECTION

WASHINGTON, D.C., December 7, 1989 -- The National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) announced today it was sending a 30-member international delegation to the December 14 national elections in Chile.

The purpose of the mission is to provide delegates from nations in transition an opportunity to learn from the successful Chilean experience and to demonstrate international support for the democratic transition underway in Chile.

"Chile has been a model for those interested in successful democratic transitions," said NDI President Brian Atwood, who will lead the delegation. "The delegation's presence in Chile reflects our belief that free and fair elections are a critical factor in a successful democratic transition."

Among those participating in the NDI delegation are political party leaders and election experts from 15 countries experiencing democratic transitions in Eastern Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America.

On December 14, Chileans will elect a president and members of a congress in accordance with the 1980 constitution and subsequent modifications approved in a July 1989 constitutional referendum. Parties from across the political spectrum are participating in the elections.

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conducting nonpartisan international programs to help maintain and strengthen democratic institutions

The election mission is the second such effort conducted by NDI in Chile. For last year's plebiscite, NDI organized a 55-member international delegation. Following the vote, NDI published a 126-page report that described the delegation's observations, and provided information on the Chilean political and electoral process.

During the past four years, NDI-sponsored observer missions have played critical roles in supporting the election processes in Chile, Haiti, Namibia, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay the Philippines.

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Enclosure: List of delegation members



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NDI DELEGATION TO CHILE NATIONAL ELECTIONS

DECEMBER 14, 1989

ARGENTINA

Antonio Cafiero
Governor
Province of Buenos Aires
Buenos Aires, Argentina

BOLIVIA

Dr. Jaime Rodrigo
Former Member
Supreme Electoral Tribunal
La Paz, Bolivia

EL SALVADOR

Gerardo Le Chevallier
International Secretary
Christian Democratic Party
San Salvador, El Salvador

HAITI

Louis Dejoie
President
National Agricultural
Industrial Party
Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Marc Bazin
Secretary General
Movement for Democracy (MIDH)
Port-au-Prince, Haiti

HUNGARY

Gabor Fodor
Association of Young Democrats
(FIDESZ)
Budapest, Hungary

Dr. Bela Szabo
Member, Foreign Affairs
Committee, Hungarian
Democratic Forum
Budapest, Hungary

LIBERIA

Rufus Darpoh
Editor-in-Chief
The Herald
Monrovia, Liberia

NAMIBIA

Brian O'Linn
Supreme Court Justice
Windhoek, Namibia

NICARAGUA

Edgard Quintana
Director of Electoral Control
National Opposition Union (UNO)
Managua, Nicaragua

Rolando Serna
Legal Counsel
Confederation of Labor Unity
(CUS)
Managua, Nicaragua

NIGERIA

Claude Ake
Professor of Political Science
University of Port Harcourt
Port Harcourt, Nigeria

Dr. Asikpo Essien Ibok
Chairman
Peoples Solidarity Party
Lagos, Nigeria

PANAMA

Aurelio Barria, Jr.
Founder
National Civic Crusade

PHILIPPINES

Eddie Nuque
Secretary General
NAMFREL
Manila, Philippines