



Please Join Us for a
Briefing and Roundtable Discussion
Sponsored by the National Democratic Institute and the Constituency for Africa

Critical Elections in Africa

Thursday, October 2, 2014
9:30 a.m. to 12 noon

National Democratic Institute
455 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC

Welcome

Kenneth Wollack, NDI president, and Mel Foote, CFA president

Opening Remarks

Johnnie Carson, former assistant secretary of state for African affairs

Panelists

Chris Fomunyoh, regional director, NDI's Central and West Africa programs

Jeff England, deputy regional director, NDI's Middle East and North Africa programs

Keith Jennings, regional director, NDI's Southern and East Africa programs

Michelle Brown, senior advisor, NDI's elections team

Thirty African countries¹ are expected to hold national elections between now and the end of 2016, many of them under challenging circumstances. The conduct of these elections and their outcome could help consolidate nascent democratic institutions and practices. But if the electoral processes are viewed as flawed by a sizable percentage of the population, elections in these countries could result in violence, protracted conflict and democratic backsliding.

¹ Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, the Republic of Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, The Gambia, Guinea, Libya, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Togo, Uganda, and Zambia.