



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NDI ENCOURAGES KENYANS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF
INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT AND OFFERS OF MEDIATION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The National Democratic Institute today called on the government of Kenya, its national political parties and citizens to resolve the current crisis peacefully and democratically.

"NDI is deeply concerned about the violence and loss of life that is taking place in Kenya in the wake of last week's national elections," said Madeleine Albright, NDI Chairman and former U.S. Secretary of State.

"We urge the Kenyan government and all parties to take advantage of international support and offers of mediation for a rapid and just resolution of this crisis and a return to Kenya's democratic path," she said.

Given the serious problems identified by domestic and international observers and election officials, NDI said it hopes there will be a thorough, independent and expedited review leading to a peaceful and democratic resolution of these important issues. The Institute called for the release of election results for all polling stations as one means to verify results. It said all efforts must be made to restore the confidence of Kenyan citizens in the electoral process.

"Kenya deserves democratic institutions and processes that reflect the hopes and aspirations of its people," Dr. Albright said. "When I was in Nairobi last year I had the opportunity to witness the democratic spirit of the people. Their will should be recognized with legitimate elections."

NDI has been working in Kenya for the past six years to assist in the development of civil society and political parties across the political spectrum.

NDI is a non-profit organization working to strengthen and expand democracy worldwide. NDI works with democrats in every region of the world to build political and civic organizations, safeguard elections, and promote citizen participation, openness, and accountability in government. More information is available at www.ndi.org.

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