



## NDI Worldwide

### The W. Averell Harriman Democracy Award: 2002

#### 2002 Award

Oswaldo Payá Sardifias of the Varela Project in Cuba, and the OAS receive NDI Democracy Award

Highlights of the proceedings. Read speeches and download audio clips.

NDI Democracy Award Program (PDF format)

#### 2001 Award

Kofi Annan, Linda and Peter Biehl honored at NDI Democracy Award ceremony



#### Acceptance speech given by Oswaldo Pay Varela Project

15th Annual W. Averell Harriman Democracy A September 30, 2002

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My name is Oswaldo Payá Sardifias. I am speaking to you from Cuba to thank you for t am not in a studio. So this recording will come to you with all my environment, with all t noises that surround my humble home. I'd like to say that it is an honor to share this a Organization of American States and with Mr. César Gaviria. Also the presence of Madel and all the others in this room whose presence I appreciate. Paradoxically, the only one attendance is the recipient of the award. My country's government will not let me partici not allow me to come and go. People like Aun San Suu Kyi receive this award. So far aw geographically, and so united in the spirit of fighting peacefully for democracy. You see, growing global solidarity among those of us working peacefully for democracy, for right This is a universal language. Our circumstances have not changed, but the hearts of the have. And that is where change must begin. With signatures or without, with a referend The Varela Project will continue as a civic movement until we achieve our rights and a d There are two things that are inseparable: our determination to achieve these changes, determination to achieve them peacefully. The Cuban civic movement is growing amidst circumstances. But finally we see a light: the light of solidarity. I thank you. I thank Go are people like you in the world. Dedicated to democracy. Dedicated to fight for those w voice. Dedicated to peace. Because the foundation of peace is freedom and justice.

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