

Scenario Memo: International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA)

The International IDEA delegation consists of:
IDEA Secretary-General, Bengt S  ve-S  derbergh
IDEA Senior Executive, Dr. Daniel Zovatto
IDEA Senior Executive, Ron Gould

The purpose of their visit is to mark Canadian membership in International IDEA and to explore synergies between the work of the Institute and Canadian foreign policy. The discussions will deal directly with peacebuilding and democratization issues. The one-day visit will be centred around the signing ceremony and a lunch which you are hosting. The rest of the visit will be dedicated to meeting with officials and spreading the word of Canadian membership and the work of IDEA.

This note contains a list of points to register at each meeting, which are shorter versions of the talking points contained at the end of each brief. The briefs are arranged to reflect the schedule of your meetings including detailed talking points for your meeting.

12:00 Meeting with IDEA delegation in your office, 10th Floor

AGP/Carmen Sorger will escort the IDEA delegation to your office. Mr. Paul Heinbecker will also attend. The informal meeting will be a good occasion to applaud the work of the Institute in democratic development, peacebuilding and electoral assistance and to welcome our membership into the Institute.

It may also be worthwhile to raise the issue of Nigeria and ask the Secretary-General about IDEA's work in that country. You may wish to explore the possibility of IDEA acting as the executing agency for the Pan-Commonwealth NGO Conference which you have proposed for May/June 1998 to strengthen Pan-Commonwealth NGOs and to push for further democratic development in countries which violate the Harare Declaration. (See attached brief)

POINTS TO REGISTER:

- PAN-COMMONWEALTH NGOS CAN AND SHOULD ACTIVELY PROMOTE DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT, BY ENGAGING AND SUPPORTING THE INSTITUTIONS OF CIVIL SOCIETY. THE HARARE DECLARATION INVITED NGOS "TO PLAY THEIR FULL PART" IN ADDRESSING THESE CHALLENGES.
- A CONFERENCE BRINGING TOGETHER PAN-COMMONWEALTH NGOS WITH A KEEN INTEREST IN DEMOCRATIZATION COULD SERVE TO DEFINE AND IMPLEMENT THE STANDARDS OF DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT ESTABLISHED BY THE HARARE DECLARATION.