

Article I

ESTABLISHMENT, LOCATION AND STATUS

1. The Parties to this Agreement hereby establish the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, as an international organization, hereinafter referred to as the Institute or International IDEA.
2. The headquarters of the Institute shall be in Stockholm, unless the Council decides to relocate the Institute elsewhere. The Institute may establish offices in other locations as required to support its programme.
3. International IDEA shall possess full juridical personality and enjoy such capacities as may be necessary to exercise its functions and fulfil its objectives, inter alia, the capacity to:
 - a. acquire and dispose of real and personal property;
 - b. enter into contracts and other types of agreements;
 - c. employ persons and accept seconded personnel on loan;
 - d. institute and defend in legal proceedings;
 - e. invest the money and properties of the Institute; and
 - f. take other lawful action necessary to accomplish the objectives of the Institute.

Article II

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

1. The objectives of the Institute are:
 - a. to promote and advance sustainable democracy worldwide;
 - b. to improve and consolidate democratic electoral processes worldwide;
 - c. to broaden the understanding and promote the implementation and dissemination of the norms, rules and guidelines that apply to multi-party pluralism and democratic processes;
 - d. to strengthen and support national capacity to develop the full range of democratic instruments;
 - e. to provide a meeting-place for exchanges between all those involved in electoral processes in the context of democratic institution-building;
 - f. to increase knowledge and enhance learning about democratic electoral processes;
 - g. to promote transparency and accountability, professionalism and efficiency in the electoral process in the context of democratic development.
2. In order to accomplish the foregoing objectives, the Institute may engage in the following type of activities:
 - a. develop networks globally in the sphere of electoral processes;
 - b. establish and maintain information services;
 - c. provide advice, guidance and support on the role of government and opposition, political parties, electoral commissions, an independent judiciary, the media and other aspects of the electoral process in a pluralistic democratic context;
 - d. encourage research and the dissemination and application of research findings within the Institute's sphere of competence;
 - e. organize and facilitate seminars, workshops and training on free and fair elections in the context of pluralistic democratic systems;
 - f. engage in other activities related to elections and democracy as the need arises.
3. The members and associate members subscribe to the objectives and activities of the Institute as stated in this article and undertake to further them and assist the Institute to carry out its programme of work.