

AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING
THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE
FOR DEMOCRACY AND ELECTORAL ASSISTANCE

The PARTIES signatory hereto,

NOTING that the concepts of democracy, pluralism and free and fair elections are taking root worldwide;

NOTING that democracy is essential for promoting and guaranteeing human rights and that participation in political life, including government, is part of human rights, proclaimed and guaranteed by international treaties and declarations;

NOTING ALSO that the ideas of sustainable democracy, good governance, accountability and transparency have become central to policies for national and international development;

RECOGNIZING that strengthening democratic institutions, nationally, regionally and globally is conducive to preventive diplomacy, thereby promoting the establishment of a better world order;

UNDERSTANDING that democratic and electoral processes require continuity and a long-term perspective;

WISHING TO ADVANCE and implement universally held norms, values and practices;

AWARE that pluralism presupposes actors and national and international organizations with distinctly different tasks and mandates that cannot be subsumed by others;

REALIZING that a meeting place for all those involved would sustain and advance professionalism and systematic capacity building;

CONSIDERING that a complementary international institute in this field is required.

HAVE AGREED as follows: