

institutions appropriate to the requirements of individual sovereign nations. As a quasi-private foundation, it provides grants to indigenous NGOs in Latin America and the Caribbean. It operates with no field staff. The Foundation receives annual funding from Congress of approximately US \$15 million.

c) The National Endowment for Democracy (NED)

53. The NED, a privately incorporated non-profit organization with a broadly-based Board of Directors was established by Congress in 1983. The purposes of the NED are to encourage free and democratic institutions which promote internationally recognized human rights through private sector initiatives, including training programs and democratic institution building and the strengthening of democratic electoral processes and pluralism. The NED proposal, in part inspired by activities undertaken by the Federal Republic of Germany's Political Foundations (see below), was the result of a six month non-governmental research study termed the "Democracy Program" to design new private sector approaches to foster and strengthen democratic values and institutions abroad. It has been confused, frequently, with the Reagan administration's 1983 proposal for a "Project Democracy" through the U.S. Information Agency to enhance related programs of the U.S.A. Government.

54. The National Endowment for Democracy received Congressional funding of US \$15 million for 1986-87. It will expend these funds primarily through four core grantees: the AFL-CIO's Free Trade Union Institute (US \$4.8 million); the U.S.A. Chamber of Commerce's Centre for Private Enterprise (US \$2.1 million); the Democratic Institute for International Affairs (US \$1.7 million); and the National Republican Institute for International Affairs (US \$1.7 million). It will make grants on its own of US \$3.5 million and incur administrative costs of US \$1.2 million. The NED is "committed to working in a non-partisan and consistent manner" and it strives to be "responsive to local needs and seek to encourage - but not to control indigenous efforts to build free and independent institutions".

55. The NED interlocutor welcomed the proposed establishment of a Canadian institution and advised that while pitfalls would be encountered, many might be dealt with through the development of an appropriate structure and operational approaches.

J. Sweden

56. There is no Swedish institution or Centre equivalent to the proposed Canadian institution. However, Swedish non-governmental organizations and institutions have funded activities of a related nature. For example, the two central trade