

government which was roundly seen as inadequate and tenuous. The execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa in November stepped up the pressure on Nigeria, with the international community calling for a restoration of democratic rule and the holding of elections within two years. The end of 1995 brought few encouraging signs of progress (see Multilateral).

Efforts to build on the introduction of multipartyism in Kenya experienced setbacks in 1995. A promised constitutional review was not carried out and the increasing publication of allegations of judicial corruption and interference focused more public attention and scrutiny on the independence of the judiciary. The government continued its harassment and arrest of opposition politicians, refusing to register the new Safina party and failing to prevent or condemn the beating, by government supporters, of Safina party members at a rally in August.

In Uganda, the new constitution was promulgated in October after open and vigorous debate among delegates. The constitution extended the life of the "movement" political system as the only legal one for an additional 5 years. While candidates in the 1996 Presidential and Parliamentary elections are running on an individual basis and not as party candidates, political parties continue to exist, albeit under severe restrictions governing party organization and activities. A promised referendum at the end of the five year term will determine whether there is support for a return to multipartyism.

The process of democratic consolidation was evident in Mozambique where, following the historic elections in September 1994, parliament began to function as an effective governing entity in the country. Most encouraging, given the historic divisions, was the development of cross-party caucuses in parliament.

In the Middle East, the signature of the interim agreement between the Israelis and Palestinians calling for the establishment of an elected Palestinian Authority in Gaza and the West Bank was a significant achievement in the face of opposition (sometimes violent) from within both camps. The agreement set in motion the process of constructing the required electoral machinery to meet the January 1996 timetable for elections.

Algeria saw another year of political violence. Negotiations with Islamic leaders ended in August and elections were called for December 1995. While the elections did not meet the standards of more established democracies, the results were viewed as a boost to the credibility of the regime of incumbent President Liamine Zeroual who garnered 61% of the vote. A higher than expected voter turnout, estimated at 75%, despite calls for a boycott and the threat of violence by the FSI (Islamic Salvation Front) was portrayed as a repudiation of