



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NDI PRE-ELECTION ASSESSMENT DELEGATION ARRIVES IN TANZANIA

DAR ES SALAAM, Tanzania– The National Democratic Institute (NDI) is conducting a pre-election assessment of Tanzania’s preparations for presidential and parliamentary elections to be held on October 31, 2010.

Arriving in Dar es Salaam on May 16, the pre-election delegation will conduct a five-day assessment, which will include a visit to Zanzibar, to assess electoral arrangements on both the mainland and the islands.

The delegation is comprised of Nora Schimming-Chase, former vice chair of the Southern Africa Development Community’s Parliamentary Forum; Ken Nnamani, former president of the Nigerian Senate; Keith Jennings, NDI’s Southern and East Africa regional director; Heather Kashner, NDI Uganda resident director; Mary O’Hagan, NDI Kenya senior resident director; and Ivan Doherty, NDI’s director of political party programs.

The delegation will assess the status of election preparations and the general electoral environment through a series of meetings with the National Electoral Commission, the Zanzibar Electoral Commission, government officials, political party leaders, representatives of civil society, the media and the international community.

Following completion of the assessment, the delegation will present its findings at a press conference on May 21 in Dar es Salaam.

Activities conducted by the delegation will be completed in a nonpartisan, professional manner in accordance with applicable law and international standards for election monitoring set forth in the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation.

During the 2005 elections, NDI organized an international delegation to observe the elections in Zanzibar. Since then, the Institute has remained active in Tanzania, working to increase young people’s involvement in political parties.

The National Democratic Institute is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization working to support and strengthen democratic institutions worldwide through citizen participation, openness and accountability in government. More information is available at www.ndi.org.

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