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Peter M. Weichlein IEMI Executive Director

Suggested Training Schedule – August 22-23, 2007 Ottawa, Canada

Day 1 – Topic:

What is an observation mission and what is the role of an observer? What are key issues affecting Former Parliamentarians in the role of an observer?

12:30 <u>Introduction to the Briefing Session</u>

- Outline of topics to be covered
- Purpose and context of the session
- Self-introduction of briefing participants

1:15-3:15 <u>Composition of a Typical Election Observation Mission</u> (CANADEM/Guest)

- Discussion of the different multilateral organizations (OSCE, OAS, EU, NDI, IFES, etc) and how they run missions, what are the similarities and differences?
- Review of other international organizations involved in election observation missions (NDI, IFES etc)
- If available, host a guest speaker from a multilateral organization to provide a case study.

3:15-3:45 Break

3:45-5:15 Job Description of an Election Observer (Diane Lepine)

- What is the role of an STO/an LTO on Election Day?
- Brief review of the election observers Code of Conduct

5:15-5:45 Key Issues for Former Parliamentarians (CANADEM/IEMI or CAFP)

- Media issues
- Personal political background/partisanship
- Canadian and French Canadian politics
- High versus low maintenance observers

5:45-6:15 Overview of the Constituent Parts of an Election Process (Elections Canada)

 Discussion of main elements which should be observed and evaluated in any electoral observation mission

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6:15-6:30 <u>How Canada gets involved in International Election Observation Missions</u> (Presented by a member of CIDA if present, or by CANADEM)

6:30-8:00 Working Dinner and Expert Panel Discussion

- Over dinner allow participants an opportunity to ask questions and discuss issues raised throughout the day
- A panel of highly experienced election observers will be present to help answer questions and facilitate discussion and debate

8:00-9:00 Role Play – Code of Conduct

- A further investigation of the election observers Code of Conduct (as it applies to Former Parliamentarians)
- Act out scenarios including: a media situation and an issue of impartiality (political background)

Day 2 – Topic:

What does an observer need to know to stay safe and act appropriately?

9:00-11:00 Introduction to Intercultural Awareness (Randy Weekes)

- Examples of how intercultural issues relate to election observation
- Role play of examples
- Group analysis of the cultural baggage Canadians bring with them to election observation missions
- Discussion of cultural biases regarding democracy

11:00-11:15 Break

11:15-12:30 Introduction to Personal Safety (CANADEM/IEMI or CAFP)

- An introduction to the basics of personal safety (including handout with relevant tips): discussion of physical safety, health safety, financial safety

12:30-12:45 <u>Conclusion</u>

- Brief wrap-up and distribution of briefing feedback questionnaire