



International Electoral Observation
Briefing & Information Session
August 25 & 26 2008



DRAFT AGENDA

Objectives:

Day 1 – 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?

Day 2 – What does an observer need to know to stay safe and be culturally adaptable while on mission?

Briefing & Information Session Location:

CANADEM Conference Centre (suite 1001)
1 Nicholas Street, Ottawa Ontario
(613-789-3328)

Recommended Dress: Casual

Monday August 25, 2008:

- 12:00-12:15 Arrival of Participants
- Light lunch served
- 12:15-12:45 Introduction to the Briefing Session
- Outline of topics to be covered
- Purpose and context of the session
- 30 second self-introductions of briefing participants
- 12:45-1:15 Composition of a Typical Election Observation Mission (Alisha Todd, CANADEM)
- Who runs election observation missions?(OSCE, OAS, EU, IRI, NDI, IFES, etc)
- What is the typical composition of an election observation mission?
- What is the observer's role in an election observation mission?
- 1:15-2:15 International Republican Institute (Alisha Todd, Cheickh Bangoura)
- 2:15-2:45 Break (refreshments served)
- 2:45-5:15 Job Description of an Election Observer (Cheickh Bangoura)
- What is the role of an STO/an LTO on Election Day?
- Brief review of the election observers Code of Conduct
- Role play of scenarios covered by the Code of Conduct

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- 5:30-6:15 Overview of the Constituent Parts of an Election Process (Mathieu Mainville, Elections Canada)
- Discussion of main elements that should be observed and evaluated in any electoral observation mission
- 6:15-6:30 How Canada gets involved in International Election Observation Missions (Vanessa Hébert, CIDA)
- 7:00-8:30 Working Dinner and Expert Panel Discussion (Location: Courtyard Restaurant)
- Over dinner allow participants an opportunity to ask questions and discuss issues raised throughout the day

Tuesday August 26, 2008:

- 8:30-9:30 Introduction to Personal Safety (Mick O'Brien)
- An introduction to the basics of personal safety while on mission.
- 9:30-9:45 Break
- 9:45-11:45 Introduction to Intercultural Awareness (Randy Weekes)
- Group analysis of the cultural baggage Canadians bring with them to election observation missions
- Discussion of cultural biases regarding democracy
- Discussion of how intercultural issues relate to election observation
- 11:45-12:00 Conclusion