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MEDIA ADVISORY

BUSH TRIP TO HIGHLIGHT DEMOCRACY IN AFRICA

Washington, DC – FEBRUARY 14, 2008 – The state of democracy in Africa will be high on the agenda when U.S. President George W. Bush begins a five-country trip to the continent on Friday. The International Foundation for Election Systems is carrying out democracy development projects in 11 African countries, including Liberia, Kenya and Nigeria.

The following expert is available to analyze the prospects for democratic reform in Africa and the Bush administration's involvement on the continent.

Chris Hennemeyer, Africa Program Director

Chris Hennemeyer has more than 20 years of professional experience in sub-Saharan Africa, having lived in the west, central and north regions of the continent. He has worked throughout the continent to build the capacity of civil society groups, grassroots organizations, human rights groups, non-governmental organizations and faith-based organizations. Hennemeyer's experience also includes running major relief operations in Rwanda during the genocide, and Burundi, Liberia, Congo and Sierra Leone during their various armed conflicts. Hennemeyer is fluent in French.

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IFES is an international, nonprofit organization that supports the building of democratic societies.