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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT

GUYANA

**NDI/IFES
COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
97-1601-GUY.O-193**

**FINAL REPORT
APRIL 30, 1998**

*This report was made possible by a Sub-Grant from the National Democratic Institute
through the U.S. Agency for International Development*

*The partial or total use of this report is permitted only if its source,
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BACKGROUND

The National Democratic Institute awarded IFES a series of sub-grants from its Cooperative Agreement with USAID/Guyana which eventually totaled \$171,057. The objective of the grants was to provide the Guyana Elections Commission (GEC) with sufficient technical expertise to carry out successful presidential and parliamentary elections in 1997.

The initial sub-grant, signed on February 20, 1997, amounted to \$80,000 to be expended between February and May 1997. This grant was subsequently extended to August 1997. On August 14, 1997, due to the need to provide the GEC with special security paper needed to print the voters list, NDI and IFES amended the agreement to increase the amount of the sub-grant to \$111,057, or an increase of \$31,057. Finally, on September 22, 1997, the sub-grant was amended once again to increase it by another \$60,000. This additional funding provided the GEC with 2,000 hand-held UV lamps (for reading the security watermark on voter ID cards) and funded the deployment of an eight-member IFES international delegation to observe the December 1997 general election.

Many of the suggestions put forth by IFES during the various trips made by IFES consultants were accepted and implemented by the GEC. The implementations of these suggestions was instrumental in enabling the GEC to update its computer network system. As a consequence of the new hardware and software and the technical support provided by IFES, the GEC was able to reduce the delays and downtime produced by a rapid increase in the volume of data entries. In short, the network updates produced in a timely fashion a far more reliable voter's list. The GEC printed the final voters list, produced with an IFES network server and software and an IFES laser printer, on IFES-provided paper, on September 8, 1997.

During the duration of the sub-grants (February 1997/March 1998), IFES activities were concentrated in the procurement area. IFES procured the following:

- Hardware
- Software
- Paper for the voter list print out
- 2,000 UV lights hand held lamps
- 8,000 AA batteries

In addition to the procurements listed above, IFES also fielded an eight-member international observation team to observe the December 15, 1997, general elections. Following the elections, protests by the losing party led to an agreement to conduct a full

nationwide recount. IFES offered its services in this regard, and the newly-elected President accepted the offer in a national TV address. IFES/Washington personnel worked diligently for a number of days in January 1998 putting together a list of U.S. and international experts to conduct the recount. However, the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) was engaged in brokering a broad national reconciliation agreement between the two major parties in Guyana, and as part of that effort offered to supervise the recount. This offer was accepted by both parties and the recount began in April 1998. IFES offered its full support to CARICOM.

A. PROCUREMENT

1. HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE

The original sub-grant agreement required IFES to assess, identify and install the basic components of computer network infrastructure which would upgrade the GEC facilities and consequently, ensure stand-alone sustainability along with capability for expansion and ease of maintenance in the future. The objectives of this project were to provide a) the immediate enhancements necessary in the hardware and software of the computer network, b) reliability and security during the production of both the preliminary and final voter lists, and c) assistance in the design and production of the preliminary and final voter lists.

IFES conducted activities related to the production of the voter's list in three stages. The first stage implemented many of the recommendations made by IFES Consultant Taff Gafoor during his December 1996 assessment. First, IFES procured the relevant computer hardware and software necessary to guarantee that the commission's network would function without serious interruption or deterioration for the duration of the current election cycle. After the procurement and shipment of the equipment to Guyana, IFES fielded information systems specialist Michael Hedgepath to assist with the installation and training related to the new equipment and software.

The final upgrade involved the installation of a Compaq Proliant 5000 server, a tape back-up system, a system-wide power back-up unit, and a laser printer; all with the corresponding software. With proper maintenance, this computer network upgrade will permit the Guyana Election Commission to utilize the voters' registry database for several years into the future, which should include the next election cycle. Additionally, the completion of this phase allowed the GEC to concentrate on its needs and requirements for the production of the voter's list and voters' identification cards.

The completion of this first activity allowed the Commission to commence the second activity, the production of the voters list. The IFES information systems consultant worked with the GEC and an IFES elections specialist to design an acceptable format for the final list. The local area network was utilized to compile a database of more than 500,000 registration forms for citizens aged 14 years and older. The assistance provided by IFES speeded the GEC's network and production process and helped produce a more reliable list. The final voters list was printed by the GEC in September 1997.

The importance of the voters' registration list is that it contains all pertinent information on the voter and that it could serve as a basis for the production of permanent voter identification cards, an important goal for the Government of Guyana. To achieve this goal, further enhancement of the list and the computer system may be required, as well as a plan of integration.

2. PAPER PROCUREMENT

During the month of July 1997, IFES received a request from the GEC for assistance in procuring special security paper on which to print the final voters list. The paper was purchased with IFES core funds. With a subgrant from the National Democratic Institute, IFES financed air shipment of the paper and travel expenses for an IFES representative to deliver to the GEC the 20,000 lbs. of paper. As IFES had at this time, a new Program Officer for Guyana who had not yet visited the country, Ms. Nhelly Saleh, and given the very short time-frame and the importance of the final voter's list and the voters' identification cards to the overall success of the elections, IFES decided to use Ms. Saleh's first trip to have her oversee the clearance of the shipment through customs and its delivery to the GEC. Ms. Saleh spent four days in Georgetown making sure that the delivery of the paper would take place in an efficient and timely manner. In the process, IFES enhanced an already very favorable working relationship with the Guyana Election Commission, specially with its chairman, Mr. Doodnauth Singh. This favorable working relationship was key five months later when IFES deployed its observation mission.

3. UV LIGHTS

Two thousand hand-held ultraviolet lamps were sent to the GEC to be distributed throughout the country on election day. The purpose was to reassure voters that the identity cards could not be duplicated and to avoid any potential fraud in the election by verifying under UV light the security symbols imbedded in the voter ID cards. For the UV light hand held lamps to properly function, 8,000 AA batteries were procured for the GEC.

B. DEPLOYMENT OF AN ELECTORAL OBSERVATION TEAM

In December 1997, IFES, deployed an eight-member international delegation to Guyana to observe the December 15, 1997, general elections. The mission was led by George Jones, IFES' Director for the Americas and a former U.S. Ambassador to Guyana. It included the Chief Election officer of Trinidad and Tobago, Mr. Howard Cayenne, and Suriname, Mr. Samuel Polanen, a retired U.S. political consultant, Mrs. Lesley Israel, and a former Canadian High Commissioner to Guyana, Mr. John Graham, as well as three IFES staff members.

During the days previous to election day, the IFES delegation interviewed several presidential candidates, and met with President Hinds, the chairman of the election commission, Mr. Doodnauth Singh, the directors of the Electoral Assistance Bureau (the only politically-involved non-partisan Guyanese NGO), the editor and publisher of the only independent newspaper, Mr. David DeCaries, and the resident representative of the UNDP. The delegation also met with the United States Ambassador, Mr. James Mack, the Deputy Chief of Mission, Mr. Hugh Simon, and the USAID Representative, Mr. Patrick McDuffie, and received a briefing from the Embassy's political officer. These interviews gave the observers a good understanding of the pre-electoral environment in Guyana. Chairman Singh gave the IFES observers access to the GEC buildings and relevant information concerning Guyana's electoral law and electoral registry.

The team also met with NDI in-country and Washington-based personnel. The meeting had a twofold objective. First, to learn from NDI's in-country personnel their appreciation of the electoral process and second to coordinate the deployment of observers on election day so that the two organizations would not visit a polling station twice. The NDI team was very helpful to the IFES team in deciding which areas to observe.

On election day IFES deployed four observer teams of two members each: The areas visited were Regions 3, 4, 5, and 10, which together have almost 70 percent of the registered voters. The four teams observed the opening of the polls in Georgetown and then traveled by land to their respective zones. The most significant observation at the beginning of the day was the large number of voters lined up waiting to vote at 6:00 a.m. People were clearly eager to vote and many did so with a festive attitude. Many voters went to the polls early and by noon many voting stations reported between 70 to 80 percent had already voted, making a long, slow afternoon for the pollworkers, who had to wait for the remaining voters. Supplies were in place in the correct quantities and both major political parties - although very few of the minor parties - were represented at every polling station visited. The pollworkers seemed well trained and willing, and relations

local observers, fielded by the EAB, who were present at a large percentage of the polling stations.

There were no significant incidents or problems anywhere in the country during election day. In fact, the informal comment among the 77 foreign observers was that it had been a model election - up until 6 p.m., when the polls closed. Pollworker training, which had seemed quite satisfactory for the administration of voting, appeared deficient in the counting of votes and completion of tally sheets. A number of tally sheets did not have all the necessary signatures; some had none at all. Others failed to indicate the number of the polling station, so that the Commission had no way of knowing where it came from. The number of votes affected by these defective tally sheets, however, were not sufficient to affect the overall results, and many sheets were later certified by agreement between the Commission members representing the two major parties, who had available to them the reports of their parties' pollwatchers.

The most significant fact about the Guyanese elections is that the GEC's announcement of the elections results took a long time, due to the lack of a system that would have had insured a fast and reliable transmission of the results from the polling stations to the GEC headquarters. This lateness and slowness caused great public unease and suspicion, especially among black voters, who are heavily concentrated in the capital city of Georgetown, and who reasoned logically that their votes should have been the first to reach the Commission, not the last. Numerous protests and street demonstrations and some acts of violence continued for over a month after the elections. Under the circumstances, IFES kept one member of its delegation, High Commissioner Graham, in the country for another four days to continue his observation and reporting of events. He worked closely with other observer delegations, the EAB, and the US and Canadian Embassies and participated in several meetings with the President-elect and the Minority Leader. Ambassador Jones and High Commissioner Graham continued their daily contacts with Guyanese leaders by phone even after their return to their respective countries.

One of the proposals which came out of these meetings was that an "audit" of the election results - by which was meant a full recount of the ballots and an analysis of the entire electoral process - should be conducted by some independent, foreign group. IFES wrote to the President of Guyana, the Minority Leader, and Chairman Singh and offered its services. The President warmly accepted IFES' offer in a nationwide TV address. USAID agreed to make Public Law 480 counterpart funds available to fund the deployment of an IFES team. IFES recruited a group of Caribbean and US election administrators with recount experience.

However, the good offices of the Caribbean Community, CARICOM, were also requested

However, the good offices of the Caribbean Community, CARICOM, were also requested by Guyanese leaders, and in the end, CARICOM's offer to organize the recount with an exclusively Caribbean team was accepted by all concerned. IFES gave the names of its team members to CARICOM and offered to help in any way it might be needed. At the time this report was prepared the CARICOM recount had just begun.

On January 14, 1998, IFES held a briefing at its Washington headquarters on its recent election observations, including Guyana. US Government officials, the Washington NGO community, interested embassies, and the press attended.

PROJECT IMPACT ANALYSIS

Under the sub-grant provided by the National Democratic Institute (NDI), the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) enhanced the Guyana Election Commission computer network by providing key software, hardware and technical support.

IMPACT 1 : This procurement enabled the GEC to speed data entry and produce a far more reliable voter's list. Proper maintenance of the equipment will provide the GEC with a network for years to come.

IMPACT 2 : The voter's list will also provide a stepping stone for the government of Guyana should it subsequently decide to computerize and update its national registry.

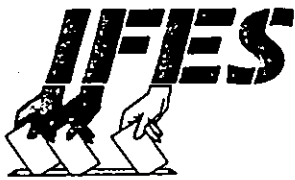
IMPACT 3 : IFES also procured 2,000 hand-held UV lights and 8,000 AA batteries. These lamps were instrumental in avoiding potential fraud during the December elections.

IMPACT 4 : For the December 15, 1997, general elections, IFES fielded an eight-member international observation team which after visiting polling stations throughout the country, reported a heavy voter turn out and a tranquil and orderly election. Though the population voted in large numbers and the election process was well-organized, the counting process and result's transmission had deficiencies which led to a recount by CARICOM. In January 1998, the findings of IFES' observer mission were made public at a briefing that took place at the IFES Washington offices.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

IFES greatly appreciates the tremendous amount of support it has received from the USAID office and the U.S. Embassy in Georgetown. U.S. Government support has been essential for the success of the project, and it will be not only welcome but necessary in any future IFES assistance to the Government of Guyana. IFES also appreciates the financial and other support given by NDI. IFES strongly encourages USAID to continue supporting democracy initiatives in Guyana.





International Foundation for Election Systems

1101 15th STREET, N.W. • THIRD FLOOR • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005 • (202) 828-8507 • FAX (202) 452-0804

STATEMENT TO THE PRESS
GEORGETOWN, GUYANA
DECEMBER 16, 1997

My name is George Jones. I am the Director of Programs for the Americas at the International Foundation for Elections Systems, IFES. IFES is a private, non-profit, non-partisan, non-governmental organization, established ten years ago in order to provide technical assistance to electoral authorities around the world in the holding of free and fair elections. IFES has worked with the Guyana Elections Commission since 1990, and we observed the Guyanese elections of 1992 and 1994, as well as yesterday's. With funds made available to us by the United States Agency for International Development, we purchased the special paper used for printing the final voters list, the ultraviolet lamps used to verify the authenticity of the voter ID cards, and the server for the Commission's computer network. IFES is proud of its role in support of the Elections Commission and in support of the consolidation of democracy in Guyana.

Let me introduce three of our eight observers. Mrs. Lesley Israel is a retired political consultant in the United States and a member of the Board of Directors of IFES. The Honourable John Graham is well-known to many of you as a former High Commissioner of Canada to Guyana, and a former Ambassador to Venezuela. Mr. Howard Cayenne is the Chief Elections Officer of Trinidad and Tobago. Not with us, due to his departure this morning for his country, is the Chairman of the Suriname Elections Commission, Mr. Samuel Polanen. Our other observers, from IFES' staff in Washington, were Ms. Torie Keller, Ms. Nhelly Saleh Ramirez, and Mr. Pablo Galarce.

Guyana is to be congratulated. By international standards, by any standards, yesterday's election was peaceful, orderly, totally transparent, and professionally managed. The voters are to be congratulated on turning out in massive numbers; it appears that the turnout will be at least as high, if not higher, than in 1992, that is to say, around 80 percent. The Elections Commission, and its chairman, Mr. Doodnauth Singh, are to be congratulated on an outstanding job in registering voters and producing the voters' list; this was one of the very few elections we have observed, in which there were no difficulties whatever with the list. Our observers traveled from Essequibo to the Berbice, and south to Linden, and we received not a single complaint from pollworkers, domestic observers, or party agents about the conduct or organization of the election. That is a remarkable achievement. Many of the

polling officials and agents told us they would be willing to do their long, tedious job again at the next election, because of their belief in its importance to democracy.

The Electoral Assistance Bureau, the EAB, is particularly to be congratulated for its success in deploying hundreds of Guyanese observers, for the first time in Guyanese history. Local observers are always more numerous than international ones, and because they know the local scene, they are also more effective. The EAB's participation underlines one of the central facts about this election: that it was a Guyanese election, organized and managed and observed by Guyanese. All of the political parties with whom we met assured us that the Elections Commission had been rigorously independent and impartial. Again, the Elections Commission is to be warmly congratulated in that regard. We would also like to commend Commissioner Laurie Lewis and the Guyana Police Force on a very successful and effective plan to assure the security of the Elections Commission and of the democratic process.

No election is perfect, in any country, and this election was not devoid of problems. After an outstanding job of registering voters and producing ID cards, and of distributing them house-to-house, a number of ID cards remained unclaimed. It appears to us that the Commission was neither consistent nor decisive in its arrangements for enabling voters to claim these remaining cards. Let us be clear, however, that no matter what method was used, many, perhaps most, of these cards would not have been used; those Guyanese who were most interested in voting were able to do so on election day. But it is always a matter of regret if even one person is unable to exercise the franchise. This problem should disappear with the introduction of permanent registration and permanent ID cards, which we understand is planned. IFES has offered its assistance in that important process.

It is also obvious that the Commission's plans for the rapid transmission of results have not been as successful as they had hoped. This was a problem in 1992 that has not yet been resolved. It is a problem we have encountered in a number of countries, however, and it typically improves as the electoral authorities refine their procedures in each successive election. Establishing a permanent Elections Commission, with time and funding to work between elections as well as during election years, would help.

All of our observers commented on the spirit of cooperation and harmony that characterized every polling place they visited. Polling officials and party agents of all races and religions worked together at close quarters for 15 or 16 hours or more on Monday. That spirit of mutual respect and tolerance to us represents the real Guyana. We urge that Guyana's leaders, of all parties, reflect on the importance of demonstrating that spirit in their words and their deeds during the next five years.



APPENDIX XVIII

FORM A-23

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT CAP 1:03

GENERAL ELECTIONS TALLY SHEET

FOR THE COUNTING OF VOTES

AD
172

DIVISION NO. 10

POLLING PLACE NEWSILVER CITY

DIVISION NAME LINDEN

OP	[Grid with diagonal lines]										X
PP	[Grid with diagonal lines]										X
SS	[Grid with diagonal lines]										X
AS	N	R									
US	N	R									
AS	[Grid with diagonal lines]										R
AS	[Grid with diagonal lines]										R

107

2 SPOILED = R

1 SPOILED N

R 170 + 2(S)

N 171 + 1(S) Presiding Officer

PRO
220

Form A 23

REPRESENTATION OF PEOPLE ACT CAP 1:03
 GENERAL AND REGIONAL ELECTIONS TALLY SHEET
 FOR THE COUNTING OF VOTES

District: MAHAJICA / BERBICE
 Name

5

Polling Place: F. HOOP PRI school
 Name

POLLING DIVISION/SUB DIVISION (S) # No. 512311 - A
 PARTY POSTS VEVAJ

A F G										Total
										5
A G G										-
G D P										-
P N C										17
P P P/c										144
T 4 F										-
										166

Rejected 1, 1, 1

3
 169

97.12.15
 DATE

Kavita Sookraj
 PRESIDING OFFICER

6:00 pm, poll declared closed

Form A 23

198 listed
169 voted
29 did not show up
in

REPRESENTATION OF PEOPLE ACT CAP 1:03
GENERAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS TALLY SHEET
FOR THE COUNTING OF VOTES

DENTON PRIMARY SCHOOL
MATHICA BRANCH RD.

District: MATHICA / DERBICE
Name

5

Polling Place: Denton P.R. School
Name

POLLING DIVISION/SUB DIVISION (S) # No. 512311-A
PARTY

Party	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	Total	
A																						
F																						
G																						5
A																						
G																						
G																						
B																						
C																						
G																						
D																						
P																						
J																						
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N																						
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N																						
C																						17
P																						
P																						
P																						
C																						
T																						
4																						
F																						
																						167

Rejected

Res

2

169

9th 12:15
DATE

Kavita Sookraj
PRESIDING OFFICER



APPENDIX XIX

THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT GENERAL AND REGIONAL ELECTIONS

FORM OF BALLOT PAPER

GENERAL

Counterfoil no.	1	THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY CANDIDATES' LIST	♣	
Elector's No. in Of- ficial list	2	L.A.B. THE LABOUR PARTY CANDIDATES' LIST	*	
	3	L.I.B. THE LIBERAL PARTY CANDIDATES' LIST	⊙	

REGIONAL

Counterfoil no.	1	C.O.N. THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY CANDIDATES' LIST	♣	
Elector's No. in of- ficial list	2	L.A.B. THE LABOUR PARTY CANDIDATES' LIST	*	
	3	L.I.B. THE LIBERAL PARTY CANDIDATES' LIST	⊙	



FORM 23 A
 THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT
 GENERAL ELECTION
 STATEMENT OF POLL

For the Polling Place DE HOOP PRIMARY SCHOOL 512311-A.

In Polling District 5 MAHAICA / BERBICE

1. No. of valid votes cast for each list of candidates:

list	of	<u>AFC</u>	total	<u>5</u>	votes
list	of	<u>PNC</u>	total	<u>17</u>	votes
list	of	<u>PPP/C</u>	total	<u>145</u>	votes
list	of	.....	total	.....	votes
list	of	.....	total	.....	votes
list	of	.....	total	.....	votes
list	of	.....	total	.....	votes

167

2. Total valid votes for all lists 167

3. Add total number of rejected ballot papers
 (See statement below) 2

4. Grand total of persons who appear
 to have voted in the polling place 169

5. Total number of spoiled ballot papers -

6. Total number of tendered ballot papers used -

7. Statement of rejected ballot papers in the polling place.

No. of ballot papers rejected for-

- (a) want of official mark _____
 - (b) unmarked or void for uncertainty _____
 - (c) marked for more than one list of candidate _____
 - (d) marked so that the elector can be identified 2
- Total 2
-

Presiding Officer Kavita Sookraj

Date 97.12.15.

FORM 23 A
 THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT
 REGIONAL GENERAL ELECTION
 STATEMENT OF POLL

For the Polling Place DE HOOP PRIMARY SCHOOL - 512311-A

In Polling District 5 MAHAIEA / BERBICE DE HOOP PRIMARY SCHOOL

1. No. of valid votes cast for each list of candidates:

list	of	<u>AFG</u>	total	<u>5</u>	votes
list	of	<u>PNC</u>	total	<u>17</u>	votes
list	of	<u>PPP/C</u>	total	<u>144</u>	votes
list	of	.....	total	.....	votes
list	of	.....	total	.....	votes
list	of	.....	total	.....	votes
list	of	.....	total	.....	votes

166

2. Total valid votes for all lists

3. Add total number of rejected ballot papers
(See statement below)

3

4. Grand total of persons who appear
to have voted in the polling place

169

5. Total number of spoiled ballot papers

6. Total number of tendered ballot papers used

7. Statement of rejected ballot papers in the polling place.

No. of ballot papers rejected for-

(a) want of official mark

(b) unmarked or void for uncertainty

1

(c) marked for more than one list of candidate

(d) marked so that the elector can be identified

2

Total

3

Presiding Officer Kavita Sahraj

Date December 15, 1997

left at 9:30pm





The Official Gazette

OF GUYANA

Published by the Authority of the Government

GEORGETOWN, SATURDAY 13TH DECEMBER, 1997

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NOTICE

UNDER THE GENERAL ELECTIONS (OBSERVERS) ACT 1990

(Act No. 17 of 1990)

In accordance with the provision of Section (3) of the General Elections (Observers) Act 1990, the following persons have been invited to observe the democratic process of the States as enshrined in the Constitution, and more specifically the conduct of the elections:—

Electoral Observer Mission

List of Observers

December 1997

Organization of American States

1. Mr. Kenneth HALL, Registering Officer, Barbados.
2. Mr. Lucas ECHEVERRI, Lawyer, Colombia.
3. Ms. Georgine de MIRANDA, Lawyer, Suriname.
4. Dr. Hilary BROWN, Consultant, Jamaica.
5. Dr. Merlin B. BRINKERHOFF, Professor, Canada.
6. Mr. Tomas A. BIALET, Consultant, Argentina.
7. Dr. Joseph Edsel EDMUNDS, O.B.E.; Ambassador; Chief of Mission, St. Lucia.

8. Mr. Noel SPRINGER, Elections Officer, Barbados.
9. Dr. Bruce RICKERSON, Elections Specialist, USA.
10. Mr. Santiago MARIANI, Consultant, Argentina.
11. Mr. Hector VANOLLI, Elections Specialist, Argentina.
12. Ms. Maria VELLO, Registering Officer, Belize.
13. Dr. John TIERNEY, Professor, USA.
14. Ms. Bertha CARRILLO, Consultant, Mexico.
15. Ms. Ada CHICAS, Consultant, Belize.
16. Ms. Diana THORBURN, Consultant, Jamaica.
17. Mr. Jaime TOSO, Administrative Officer, USA.
18. H.E. Mr. Christopher THOMAS, OAS Assistant Secretary-General, Trinidad and Tobago.
19. Mr. Paul SPENCER, Advisor to the OAS Assistant Secretary-General Antigua.
20. Mr. Ian EDWARDS, OAS Public Information Specialist, Jamaica.
21. Ms. Shirley CAMPBELL, Specialist Assistant to the OAS Assistant Secretary-General, Trinidad and Tobago.
22. Dr. Fernando MAYORGA GARCIA, National Elections Commissioner, Colombia.
23. Dr. Jose Maria SARMIENTO ORTIZ, Legal Adviser to the National Elections Commission, Colombia.
24. H.E. Mr. James MACK, Ambassador, USA.
25. Mr. Gregory THOME, Second Secretary, US Embassy, USA.
26. Mr. Graham WEBSTER, Third Secretary, US Embassy, USA.
27. Mr. Maximiliano SALAZAR, Security Officer, US Embassy, USA.

Commonwealth Secretariat

28. H.E. Mr. Ali Hassan MWINYI, Former President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Head of Mission, Tanzania.
29. Ms. Jeannette FRANCE, Former Public Servant, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
30. Ms. Bience GAWANAS, Ombudswoman, Namibia.
31. Rt. Rev. S. Tilewa JOHNSON, Chairman, Independent Electoral Commission, The Gambia.
32. Mr. Stanley MARTIN, Former Diplomat, Britain.
33. Ms. Mary MURPHY, Election Officer, Canada.
34. Dr. Heatherwick NTABA, M.P., Member of Parliament, Malawi.
35. Mr. Neil PICKARD, Former Minister, Australia.
36. Dr. (Mrs.) Bharati RAY, M.P., Member of Parliament, India.
37. Mr. Hensley ROBINSON, Chief Electoral Officer, Barbados.
38. Mrs. Camille ROBINSON-REGIS, M.P., Member of Parliament, Trinidad and Tobago.
39. Ms. Dorianne ROWAN-CAMPBELL, Consultant on development issues, Jamaica.
40. Sir Anthony SIAGURU, K.B.E. Former Commonwealth Deputy Secretary-General, Papua New Guinea.
41. Sir Peter TAPSELL, M.B.E., Former Speaker, House of Representatives, New Zealand.
42. Mr. Carl DUNDAS, Team Leader, Commonwealth Secretariat.

43. Mrs. Judith PESTAINA, Assistant to Observers. Commonwealth Secretariat.
44. Mr. Richard NZEREM, Assistant to Observers. Commonwealth Secretariat.
45. Ms. Lorna McLAREN, Assistant to Observers Commonwealth Secretariat.
46. Mr. Mwambu WANENDEYE, Media Officer, Commonwealth Secretariat.
47. Mr. Guy HEWITT, Assistant to Observers, Commonwealth Secretariat.

British High Commission

48. H.E. Mr. David J. JOHNSON, C.M.G., C.V.O., High Commissioner UK.

Canadian High Commission

49. H.E. Mr. Alan BOWKER, High Commissioner, Canada.
50. Mr. Charles BOODE, Counsellor (Development) Canada.
51. Mr. Delmer BJORKLUND, First Secretary (Development), Canada.
52. Mr. Ian HARDY, Second Secretary and Consul, Canada.

International Foundation for Elections Systems (IFES)

53. H.E. Mr. George F. JONES, Director/The Americas, USA.
54. H.E. John GRAHAM, Senior Adviser, Canada.
55. Ms. Lesley ISRAEL, IFES Board Member,
56. Mr. Samuel POLANEN, Chairman of the Electoral Council, Suriname.
57. Mr. Howard CAYENNE, Chief Election Officer, Trinidad and Tobago.
58. Ms. Torie KELLER, Public Information Officer,
59. Ms. Nhelly SALEH RAMIREZ, Program Officer/The Americas,
60. Mr. Pablo O. GALARACE, Program Assistant/The Americas.

National of Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI)

61. Mr. Keith JENNINGS, Senior Program Officer for Political and Civic Organization, USA.
62. Mr. Matt DIPPELL, Senior Program Officer for Latin America and the Caribbean, USA.
63. Mr. Makram OUAISS, Program Officer for Guyana. Lebanon.
64. Ms. Deborah ULLMER, Guyana Acting Director, USA.
65. Mr. Winston CRAMER, Guyana Program Coordinator, Guyana.

Organization of American States (cont'd)

66. Mr. Michael G. Wyllie, Director,
Secretariat of the OAS in Guyana, St. Vincent.

European Union (EU)

67. H.E. Mr. John CALOGHIROU, Head of Delegation, EU

National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI)

1. Ms. Lisa DI ROSA, Program Assistant, USA.
2. Mr. Paul ADAMS, Program Assistant, Guyana.
3. Ms. Shelida WALCOTT, Program Assistant, Guyana.
4. Ms. Sucketa PERSAUD, Secretary, Guyana.
5. Mr. Maurice WITTER, Driver, Guyana.

Organization of American States (OAS)

6. Dr. William GRIMSLEY, Sector Specialist, USA.
7. Mr. Sergio Humberto DÍAZ-AGUILERA, Ministry of External Relations, Colombia.
8. Mr. Aurclio TOBON, OAS Counselor, Colombia.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

9. Mr. Carlos Felipe MARTINEZ, UN Resident Coordinator, UNDP.
10. Mr. Andrea TAMAGNINI, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP.

Embassy of the Russian Federation

11. Mr. Alexander ZATTSEV, Counselor, Russia.

US Embassy

77. Mr. Hugh V. SIMON, Deputy Chief of Mission, USA.
78. Mr. Patrick McDUFFIE, USAID Director, USA.
79. Ms. Theresa HEBRON, Consul, USA.
80. Ms. Victoria COFFINEAU, Vice-Consul, USA.
81. Mr. Steven BANKS, Vice-Consul, USA.
82. Ms. Deborah RHEA, Vice-Consul, USA.
83. Mr. Gale L. RUFF, Attache, USA.

Indian High Commission

84. H.E. Mr. Satya Pal KANJLIA, High Commissioner, India.





Mr. Richard W. Soudriette, IFES President, and IFES staff answering questions from the audience at the January 14, 1998 Briefing.



Members from the Diplomatic community, Washington NGO community, and US Government officials attended the briefing.



His Excellency Dr. Mohamed Ishmael, Guyanese ambassador to the United States, addressing the audience at the January 14, 1998 briefing





Mr. George Jones, The Americas Director of Programs, presenting his observations of the Guyana elections



Amb. Ishmael, Mr. Gangaram, and Mr. Jones at the Briefing.



Guyanese journalist, Mr. Joe Gangaram, directing questions to Mr. George F. Jones.





International Foundation for Election Systems
1101 15th Street, N.W.
Third Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
TEL (202) 828-8507 FAX (202) 452-0804