

5th Global Electoral Organization Conference

Programme



Credible Elections for Democracy

Hosted by:

International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA)

Independent Electoral Commission of Botswana

In partnership with:

Association of Central and Eastern European Election Officials (ACEEEO)

Electoral Commission Forum of Southern African Development Community Countries (ECF-SADC)

Electoral Institute for Sustainability of Democracy in Africa (EISA)

Federal Electoral Institute of Mexico (IFE)

International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)

United Nations Electoral Assistance Division (UNEAD)

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Held at Gaborone International Convention Centre (GICC)

Gaborone, Botswana

7-9 March 2011



SUNDAY, 6TH MARCH 2011

PRE-CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

12.00 – 20.00	Registration of Participants
18.00 – 19.30	Informal Reception at Peermont Walmont Hotel

DAY 1 (MONDAY, 7TH MARCH 2011)

CONFERENCE OPENING; ELECTORAL REFORM

Open at 7.30	Registration of participants
8.15 – 09.00	OPENING CEREMONY: Director of Ceremonies: Mr. Alexander Thabo Yalala , Commissioner, EMB Botswana Chair of Opening Ceremony: Honourable Justice M. S. Gaongalelwe , Chairperson, EMB Botswana Welcome Speech by Mr. Vidar Helgesen , Secretary-General, International IDEA Opening Speech: His Excellency S.K.I. Khama , President of Botswana
9.00 – 9.45	KEYNOTE ADDRESS Chair: Mr. Vidar Helgesen , Secretary-General, International IDEA Keynote Speech: H.E. Mr. Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon , Former President of Mexico and Vice-Chairman of the Global Commission on Elections, Democracy and Security Vote of Thanks: Dr. Brigalia Bam , ECF-SADC President/Chairperson IEC South Africa
10.00 – 10.30	Press Conference/Coffee Break
10.30 – 12.15	PLENARY SESSION 1: ELECTORAL REFORM ACROSS THE GLOBE Chair: Mr. William Sweeney , President and CEO, IFES Speakers: Dr. Kwadwo Afari-Gyan , Chairman, African Association of Election Authorities Ms. Irena Hadziabdic , President, EMB Bosnia & Herzegovina Mr. Rene Sarmiento , Commissioner, EMB Philippines (tbc) Dr. Leonardo Valdés Zurita , President Councilor, EMB Mexico
12.15 – 12.30	Official Photograph of Participants

12.30 – 13.45

Opening of Vendor Exhibition/Knowledge Fair

13.45 – 15.15

BREAKAWAY SESSION 1.1: EFFECTIVE ELECTORAL ASSISTANCE (OECD DAC DRAFT PRINCIPLES)

Chair:

Mr. Tadjoudine Ali-Diabacte, Deputy Director, United Nations Electoral Assistance Division (UNEAD)

Speakers:

Mr. Fabio Bargiacchi, Senior Electoral Advisor, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Discussant:

Mrs. Thoko Mpumlwana, Deputy Chairperson, EMB South Africa

Ms. Sri Nuryanti, Commissioner, EMB Indonesia

Dr. Joseph Thompson, Executive Director, Inter-American Institute of Human Rights-Center for Electoral Promotion and Assistance (IIDH-CAPEL)

Rapporteur:

Mr. Domenico Tuccinardi, NEEDS Project Director, International IDEA

BREAKAWAY SESSION 1.2: THE ROLE OF EMBs IN BETWEEN ELECTIONS AND LINKS WITH OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

Chair:

Ms. Carmina Sanchis-Ruescas, GPECS Programme Manager, UNDP

Speakers:

Mr. Kizito Tenthani, Executive Director, Centre for Multiparty Democracy, Malawi

Dr. Francisco Javier Guerrero, Councilor, EMB Mexico

Ms. Koki Muli, Director, Electoral Leadership Institute, Kenya

Rapporteur:

Ms. Teresa Polara, Electoral Assistance Specialist, European Commission

**BREAKAWAY SESSION 1.3:
CHALLENGES FACING EMBs IN THE CONTEXT OF POLITICAL PRESSURE**

Chair:

Dr. Massimo Tommasoli, Permanent Observer to the UN, International IDEA

Speakers:

Mr. Samuel Kivuitu, former Chairman, EMB Kenya

Dr. Roberto Rosario, President, EMB Dominican Republic

Mr. Prapan Naigowit, Commissioner, EMB Thailand

Rapporteur:

Mr. Carlos Navarro, Director of International Election Studies and Political Affairs, International Affairs Division, EMB Mexico

15.15 – 15.30

Afternoon Break

15.30 – 16.30

PLENARY SESSION 2: RECAP OF BREAKAWAY SESSIONS

Chair:

Mr. Andrew Bradley, Director of Global Programmes, International IDEA

Rapporteurs:

Mr. Domenico Tuccinardi, NEEDS Project Director, International IDEA

Ms. Teresa Polara, Electoral Assistance Specialist, European Commission

Mr. Carlos Navarro, Director of International Election Studies and Political Affairs, International Affairs Division, EMB Mexico

18.00 – 20.00

Welcome Reception hosted by IEC Botswana

DAY 2 (TUESDAY, 8TH MARCH 2011)

ELECTIONS AND CONFLICT; ENGAGING ELECTORAL STAKEHOLDERS THEME (INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY)

9.00 – 10.30

PLENARY SESSION 3: ELECTIONS AND CONFLICT

Chair:

Mr. Tadjoudine Ali-Diabacte, Deputy Director, UNEAD

Speakers:

Women in Elections-related Conflict: **Dr. Annie Chikwanha**, Board of Advisors Member, International IDEA

Latin American Experience: **Mr. Manuel Carrillo**, Coordinator, International Affairs Division, EMB Mexico

African Experience: **Dr. Christiana Thorpe**, UNEAD

Asian Experience: **Mr. Neel Uprety**, Chief Election Commissioner, EMB Nepal

10.30 – 10.45

Coffee Break

10.45 – 11.45

BREAKAWAY SESSION 3.1: PREVENTION AND MITIGATION OF ELECTION-RELATED CONFLICT AND VIOLENCE

Chair:

Dr. Daniel Zovatto, Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, International IDEA

Speakers:

Ms. Samia Mahgoub, IFES Country Director, Burundi

Dr. Tania Arias Manzano, President, EMB Ecuador

Rapporteur:

Mr. Gianpiero Catozzi, Regional Electoral Advisor, UNDP

BREAKAWAY SESSION 3.2: ELECTORAL JUSTICE

Chair:

Mr. Andrew Ellis, Regional Director for Asia-Pacific, International IDEA

Speakers:

Mr. Michael Svetlik, Vice President, Programs, IFES

Prof. Jesus Orozco, Lead author, Electoral Justice: The International IDEA Handbook

Judge Johann Kriegler, UNEAD

Rapporteur:

Ms. Hilda Modisane, Executive Secretary, ECF-SADC

BREAKAWAY SESSION 3.3: ELECTIONS AND WOMEN

Chair:

Ms. Marie Pascaline Menono, Regional Gender Advisor, GPECS, UNDP

Speakers:

Dr. Suzana António da Conceição Nicolau Inglês, Chairwoman, EMB Angola

Ms. Julie Ballington, Gender Advisor, GPECS, UNDP

Rapporteur:

Ms. Anna Solyom, Project Manager, ACEEEO

11.45 – 12.30

PLENARY SESSION 4: RECAP OF BREAKAWAY SESSIONS

Chair:

Mr. Felisberto Naife, Director of Elections, EMB Mozambique

Rapporteurs:

Mr. Gianpiero Catozzi, Regional Electoral Advisor, UNDP

Ms. Hilda Modisane, Executive Secretary, ECF-SADC

Ms. Anna Solyom, Project Manager, ACEEEO

12.30 – 13.30

Lunch

13.30 – 15.00

PLENARY SESSION 5: ENGAGING ELECTORAL STAKEHOLDERS

Chair:

Mr. Staffan Darnolf, IFES Country Director, Zimbabwe

Speakers:

Parliaments: **Ms. Jessica Longwe**, Director of Partner Relations, AWEPA

Political Parties: **Mr. Patrick Merloe**, Senior Associate and Director of Electoral Programs, National Democratic Institute (NDI)

Election Observers: Ms. **Malgorzata Wasilewska**, Head of Unit for Democracy and Election Observation, European External Action Service (tbc)

Civil Society: **Mr. Paul Graham**, Executive Director, Institute for Democracy in Africa (IDASA)

15.00 – 15.15

Afternoon Break (Launch of EISA's Voter Registration in Africa: A Comparative Analysis)

15.15 – 16.15

BREAKAWAY SESSION 5.1: ELECTIONS AND INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

Chair:

Mrs. Joyce Laetitia Kazembe, Deputy Chairperson, EMB Zimbabwe

Speakers:

Voter Registration Technologies in Practice: **Mr. Felisberto Naife**, Director of Elections, EMB Mozambique

E-voting Challenges: **Mr. Peter Wolf**, Technical Manager, International IDEA

Guiding Principles for Successful Implementation of New Technologies: **Mr. Ben Goldsmith**, IFES Country Director, Pakistan

Rapporteur:

Mr. Dieudonné N. Tshiyoyo, Manager, Elections and Political Processes, EISA

BREAKAWAY SESSION 5.2: YOUTH & ELECTIONS

Chair:

Ms Ilona Tip, Executive Director, EISA

Speakers:

Mr. Jean-Pierre Kingsley, Electoral Officer, EMB Canada

Ms. Anna Solyom, Project Manager, ACEEEO

Rapporteur:

Mr. Rushdi Nackerdien, Senior Programme Officer, Electoral Processes Global Programme, International IDEA

BREAKAWAY SESSION 5.3: MEDIA AND ELECTIONS

Chair:

Mr. James Deane, BBC World Services Trust

Speakers:

Dr. Steve Surujbally, Chairman, EMB Guyana

Mr. Manoah Esipisu, Deputy Spokesperson and Deputy Director, Communications and Public Affairs Division, Commonwealth Secretariat (tbc)

Rapporteur:

Ms. Aleida Ferreyra, Policy Specialist, UNDP

16.15 – 17.15

PLENARY SESSION 6: RECAP OF BREAKAWAY SESSIONS

Chair:

Mr. O. Motumise, Commissioner, IEC Botswana

Rapporteurs :

Mr. Dieudonné N. Tshiyoyo, Manager, Elections and Political Processes, EISA

Mr. Rushdi Nackerdien, Senior Programme Officer, Electoral Processes Global Programme, International IDEA

Ms. Aleida Ferreyra, Policy Specialist, UNDP

17.15 – 18.30

Reception Launch of International IDEA's Electoral Justice Handbook

DAY 3 (WEDNESDAY, 9TH MARCH 2011)

GABORONE DECLARATION; CLOSING CEREMONY

9.30 – 10.45	PLENARY SESSION 7: PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE INTEGRITY OF THE ELECTORAL PROCESS Chair: Mr. Andrew Bradley , Director of Global Programmes, International IDEA Speaker: Prof. Stephen Stedman , Research Director, PPIEP Project
10.45 – 11.15	Coffee Break / Closure of the Vendor Exhibition
11.15 – 12.30	PLENARY SESSION: CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF DRAFT GABORONE DECLARATION Chair: Ambassador Mustaq Moorad , Regional Director for Africa, International IDEA
12.30 – 13.15	CLOSING CEREMONY OF CONFERENCE Chair: Mr. Andrew Bradley , Director of Global Programmes, International IDEA Closing remarks: H.E. Mr. Mokgweetsi Masisi , Minister for Presidential Affairs and Public Administration, Botswana
13.15 – 14.30	Lunch / FINAL PRESS CONFERENCE
14.30 – 18.00	Free Time
18.00 – 19.30	Cultural Event and Farewell Toast

Conference Languages: English, French, Portuguese, Spanish

Opening and Closing Ceremony Speakers

Brigalia Bam is a trained Social Worker and Educationist. She has a Masters Degree in Communications from the University of Chicago and also holds four honorary doctorates from universities in South Africa and Canada. Dr. Bam began her term of office as Chairperson of the Independent Electoral Commission of South Africa in 1999. Dr. Bam has also been General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches and Programme Director in the World Council of Churches. Dr. Bam is a Council member of the University of Transkei, Deputy Chair of Council of the University of South Africa, Chancellor of the University of Port Elizabeth, Board member of Institute for Global Dialogue, and Founder president of the Women's Development Foundation. She was also appointed in 2007 as a member of the AU's Panel of the Wise.

Vidar Helgesen, born 1968, was appointed as the Secretary-General of the Stockholm-based intergovernmental organization International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) in 2006. Mr. Helgesen, a Norwegian national, was Norway's Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs 2001-2005. Mr. Helgesen chaired the Afghanistan Support Group in 2002 and led the 2002-2003 peace negotiations between the Government of Sri Lanka and the Tamil Tigers. Mr. Helgesen is a lawyer. He was for many years involved in Norway's Conservative Party. Mr. Helgesen acted as Special Adviser to the President of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Geneva 1998-2001. Mr. Helgesen was appointed by the UN Secretary-General as member of the UN Peacebuilding Fund Advisory Group 2007-2009.

His Excellency **S.K.I Khama** is the President of Botswana. His Excellency the President, Lieutenant General Seretse Khama Ian Khama, son of Botswana's founding President, Sir Seretse Khama. He studied in Swaziland, England, Switzerland, and pursued a military career completing his studies in the prestigious Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst, England. In 1998, he retired from the Botswana Defence Force and joined the ruling Botswana Democratic Party, becoming Minister for Presidential Affairs and Public Administration. His Excellency Khama is patron of various organizations and foundations, and founding Chairman of the Sponsor a Child Trust, which assist disadvantaged and orphaned children. Khama has received a number of honours and awards including the Presidential Order of Honour, Founder Officer Medal, Duty Code Order and the Distinguished Service Medal.

H.E. Mr. **Mokgweetsi Masisi** is Minister for Presidential Affairs and Public Administration in Botswana. He is currently coordinating the Poverty Eradication and Economic Diversification Initiatives, under the supervision of the Vice President. Minister Masisi has also worked with the UN, managing the UNICEF Education Programmed. He holds a graduate degree in Education obtained in the United States, and studied Economics and Social Policy in the United Kingdom. Recently, he undertook research in HIV prevention and Social Development.

Ambassador **Mustaq Moorad** is currently Regional Director of the Africa and the Middle East Programme in International IDEA. Ambassador Moorad has been Deputy Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in his home country, Botswana, and Deputy Secretary for Defence, Justice and Security in Office of the President of Botswana. Before joining International IDEA, he has also been the Permanent Representative of Botswana to the African Union. Ambassador Moorad holds a bachelor degree from the University of Botswana and Swaziland and a MA in Public Policy Administration from the University of Wisconsin.

Ernesto Zedillo is the Frederick Iseman '74 Director of the Yale Center for the Study of Globalization, Professor of International Economics and Politics, and Adjunct Professor of Forestry and Environmental Studies at Yale University, and former President of Mexico from 1994 to 2000. He is chairman of the Global Development Network and the oversight board of the Natural Resource Charter. He is a member of the foundation board of the World Economic Forum, the G30, the Global Development Advisory Panel of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, among others. Zedillo has also served on numerous international commissions, such as chair of the High Level Commission on Modernization of World Bank Group Governance and chair of the Commission on the Role of the IAEA to 2020 and Beyond. He currently serves as Chair of the Oversight Committee of the Natural Resource Charter.

Speakers

Kwadwo Afari-Gyan is currently the Chairman of the Electoral Commission, Ghana. He is also the current Executive Secretary of the African Association of Election Authorities. He did his Ph.D. at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He has taught at universities in America, Ghana and Nigeria and has authored several publications on political, constitutional and electoral issues. In 1991 he served on the committee that drafted proposals for Ghana's present Constitution. Since becoming an Election Administrator, he has travelled to several countries on behalf various organizations, including the Commonwealth, the UN, IFES, the NDI, the AU, ECOWAS and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation. He has also conducted several elections in Ghana and aided EMBs in other countries.

Julie Ballington is Gender Advisor, Global Programme for Electoral Cycle Support (GPECS) in the Democratic Governance Group at UNDP. She formerly served as specialist in the Gender Partnership Programme at the Inter-Parliamentary Union. From 2001-2005 she was responsible for the Women in Politics Programme at International IDEA in Stockholm. She previously worked at the Electoral Institute of Southern Africa (EISA) and she was also seconded to the Independent Electoral Commission of South Africa. She has participated in several electoral observation missions in Africa and the Middle East. Julie holds a Masters degree in political science from the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Manuel Carrillo holds a Master's degree in Political Science. He has worked in the training program for public officials at the National Institute of Public Administration (INAP), as well as several agencies of the Mexican government, such as the Ministry of the Interior and the Office of the President of the Republic. He has written several articles on electoral issues, and collaborated in the second edition of the Electoral Dictionary published by the Centre for Electoral Promotion and Assistance of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIDH/CAPEL). He has been Chief of Staff of the International Affairs Unit at the Federal Electoral Institute of Mexico since 1993.

Manoah Esipisu is Deputy Director of Information for the Commonwealth Secretariat. Prior to this post he has worked as a senior Reuters Correspondent based in Johannesburg. Manoah has directed courses ranging from writing business and financial news to covering elections in Africa for the Reuters Foundation since 1999. He has also worked on growing Africa's journalism with institutions ranging from the Mozambique-based Southern Africa Media Training Trust (NSJ) to the Johncom/Pearson journalism training programme. In 2006 he was invited to become a Visiting Academic at the University of the Witwatersrand's Journalism and Media Studies Programme.

Paul Graham is the Executive Director of IDASA – an African democracy institute. He is a member of the steering committee of the World Movement for Democracy and chair of the International Steering Committee of the NGO Process of the Community of Democracies.

Francisco Javier Guerrero Aguirre holds a PhD in International Affairs from Kent University. He was appointed Electoral Councilor of the Federal Electoral Institute of Mexico (IFE) in 2008. Among other positions, he has been Director of the Social Studies and Public Opinion Center of the Lower Chamber, Chief of Advisors to the Presidency of the Upper Chamber Board of Directors, Head of the International Affairs Unit and Chief of Advisors at the Secretary of Labor and Social Services, Advisor to Mexico City's Attorney General and Coordinator of the Master's and PhD programs at the Anahuac University. He has several publications and has written newspaper articles.

Irena Hadžiabdić holds a Masters Degree in Law, Economics and EU Policy and has over 15 years of experience in the elections and democratization processes. From 1997 to 2001 she worked for the OSCE Mission to BiH. In 2001 she was appointed Executive Director of the IFES. She actively participated in creating the Association of Election Officials of Bosnia and Herzegovina and professionally trains the election officials. She was appointed member of the BiH Central Election Commission in 2007, and currently she is the President of the Commission. Since 2002 she participated in work of the OSCE /ODIHR expert team.

Suzana António da Conceição Nicolau Inglês is currently President of Electoral Commission of Angola. Dr. Inglês is a lawyer and has worked as Assistant of the University Agostinho Neto and as Assistant in the Catholic University of Angola, as well as the Higher Institute of Religious Sciences of Angola. She is serving as Member of the Board of Judiciary and Member in CNE. Dr. Inglês has participated in several international conferences in the field of law, human rights and rights of the child.

Jean-Pierre Kingsley was Chief Electoral Officer of Canada from 1990 until 2007 during which time he oversaw the creation of the National Register of Electors, placing the organization on the WEB including the real time transmission of results, and the establishment of an internationally recognized system of financing politics and elections. Subsequently he became President and CEO of the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (Washington DC) until July 2009. He is now an international consultant.

Samuel Mutua Kivuitu is a lawyer with legal practice of over 47 years in Kenya and has been elected as Member of Parliament for 10 years in Kenya. He has been member, Deputy Chairman and Chairman in the Electoral Commission of Kenya. He has managed several national elections and a national referendum in 2005. He has also been president of the Association of Africa elections (AAEA) and observed general and presidential elections in South Africa, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Nigeria and Uganda. He is a member of International IDEA ACE Network and on the list of African election experts under AU. He was also initiating the African Charter on Democracy Elections and Governance.

Johann Kriegler is former Chairperson of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) of South Africa. A South African human-rights lawyer, Judge Kriegler headed his country's elections of liberation in 1994 and the subsequent establishment of its permanent electoral agency. He has also served as a founding justice of the new Constitutional Court. Over the last dozen years he has engaged in electoral and other missions under *inter alia* UN, AU, IFES, ICJ and IBA auspices in East Timor, Pakistan, Iraq, Palestine, Sudan, Liberia, Sierra Leone and sub-Saharan Africa. In 2008 he led the international review of Kenya's 2007 elections and has just completed as an Electoral Complaints Commissioner in Afghanistan.

Jessica Longwe, is Director of Partner Relations of the Association of European Parliamentarians with Africa (AWEPA). She has 15 years' experience of working with Parliaments and parliamentary institutions on the African Continent and Europe. She has a Masters degree in Public Administration and is a mother of two children.

Samia Mahgoub has broad experience in the field of elections spans across a wide variety of countries in Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and Africa, including the most recent posts in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). In Burundi, as Head of Operational Sector, she provided technical assistance oversight in all functions from planning to reporting. As Election Coordinator in the DRC, she provided technical and logistical assistance to the Electoral Commission and assisted NGOs in civic education, gender and elections programs. Mahgoub has been an election observer in many elections, including those in Montenegro, Lebanon, Palestine and Mozambique.

Tania Arias Manzano is currently President of Electoral Tribunal of Ecuador. Dr.. Manzano holds a PhD on jurisprudence and b.s. degree in judicial sciences from Ecuador catholic university. She also holds various degrees from other universities such as Superior Degree of Specialization in Public Contracts and Modernization of the State from Simón Bolívar Andine University and Superior Degree in Local Development and Participation from National Politechnical University and Politechnical University of Valence. In the last twenty years, she has worked in different Law Firms.

Thoko Mpumlwana has MA in the fields of Curriculum Development and Teacher Education from Michigan State University in the United States, and she has had a distinguished and illustrious career in the education sector especially in public sector institutions. Ms. Mpumlwana is one of the original commissioners of the Electoral Commission established in 1997 is currently acting as Deputy Chairperson. Ms. Mpumlwana has chaired the South African Council of Churches Women's Working Group and has been active in publishing as both author and editor. She serves, amongst others, in the boards of the Foundation for Human Rights (FHR), the Women's Development Foundation (WDF) and the South African Women in Dialogue (SAWD). She is the Chairperson of the Film and Publication Board and serves in many boards of South African organisations.

Koki Muli is an Accrediting BRIDGE Facilitator and she has worked in the area of training, human rights, democracy, constitution making, electoral justice and governance for over 15 years. She is an advocate of the High Court of Kenya and East Africa and has worked in Africa, Europe and North America. She is the Executive Director of the Electoral Leadership Institute (ELI) since 2008. During the last year she has been working for the United Nations Secretary General's Panel on the Referenda in the Sudan and is now engaged by UN Mission in Sudan as a Judicial Officer for the Rule of Law Section.

Prapun Naigowit, is an Election Commissioner with the Election Commission of Thailand since 2006. He is in charge of controlling and supervising elections both national and local, and referendums. He has over 30 years of experience of acting as Public Prosecutor. From 1982- 1995, Mr Naigowit held various management positions with the Office of the Attorney General. Since 1995 he has been the Director-General of many departments, the Department of Public Prosecution Service Commission and Secretary of the Public Prosecution Service Commission, Department of Intellectual Property and International Trade Litigation, and so on. He has also served as the Deputy Attorney General between 2001-2006.

Jesús Orozco-Henríquez is Professor and Researcher at the Legal Research Institute of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) as well as Commissioner at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (Organization of American States, 2010–2013). He served as a judge for sixteen years at the Highest Electoral Court in Mexico. He has published widely on Electoral Law, Constitutional Law, and Human Rights, including Electoral Justice: The International IDEA Handbook, as the lead author. He holds a Doctorate in Law, with honors, from UNAM and a Master Degree in Comparative Law from the University of California at Los Angeles, USA.

Roberto Rosario Márquez is Chairman of the Central Electoral Board of Dominican Republic since 2010. Mr. Rosario is Doctor of Laws and holds a Master of Advanced Studies for National Defence and Security. He is Chairman of the Training School Elections and Civil Registry of the Dominican Republic and author of several books. Mr. Rosario has been an observer of electoral processes in Latin America. He has extensive experience in electoral administration. He served as Member of the Central Electoral Board and in the Arbitration Chamber (2003-2006) and as Chairman of the Administrative Chamber (2006-2010).

Felisberto Naife is currently Director of Elections in National Electoral Commission of Mozambique.

He has also acted as Director General of Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration (STAE) in Mozambique and he has been Director of Training and Civic Education from 2003 to 2007. He has experience as senior facilitator of BRIDGE in Mozambique, Angola and South Africa.

Anna Sólyom was born in Budapest. She has MA in philosophy, graduated in 2007. Since 2007 she participates in the PhD program of the International Academy of Philosophy. From 2005 – 2007 she worked for IBM as CRM specialist. Anna joined the ACEEEO Secretariat as project manager and correspondent of international relations in October 2008. She is responsible for organizational and professional processes of the meetings of the ACEEEO, and beside these she is involved in managing capacity buildings, youth projects, observing elections, and many other projects. She is the focal point of ACE Project, and she also writes project proposals. Anna is semi-accredited BRIDGE facilitator since November 2009.

Stephen Stedman is the Freeman Spogli Senior Fellow at the Center for International Security and Cooperation and Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies at Stanford University. His research expertise includes civil wars, and mediation and implementation of peace agreements. In 2003-2004 Professor Stedman was Research Director of the United Nations High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change and was a principal drafter of the Panel's report. In 2005 he served as Assistant Secretary-General and Special Advisor to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, with responsibility for working with governments to adopt the Panel's recommendations on strengthening collective security. He is now Research Director for the PPIEP Project.

Robert Stephen Mahadeo Surujbally has studied at the University of Leipzig, Germany, in addition to being a Fulbright Scholar and a Hubert Humphrey Fellow. He has been the Chairman of the Guyana Elections Commission since 2001 and, and he has acquired a comprehensive knowledge and experience in elections management, international election observation and monitoring, working and researching in all continents. In the Caribbean, he is the President/Member of several State and Private Sector Boards of Directors, as well as many scientific and philanthropic Societies, while collaborating with national and international media. Dr. R. Surujbally is the recipient of Golden Arrow of Achievement, (National Honour Award).

Michael Svetlik has worked in international development for 15 years and currently serves as Vice President of Programs, responsible for IFES' technical assistance and democracy promotion programs. His areas of expertise are political change, institutional development, election systems, civic awareness and activism, and project management, evaluation and design. Mr. Svetlik has been also Senior Director of Programs and Regional Director for Europe & Asia at IFES. In 1998, Svetlik was awarded a Fellowship to conduct research in Tbilisi, Georgia, at the Caucasus Institute for Peace, Democracy and Development. Mr. Svetlik holds a master's degree in international relations from the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University.

Kizito Tenthani has worked in the area of democracy and governance for 15 years. His work has focused on civic and voter education, as well as in empowering rural communities' civil and political rights. From 2003 he worked for the Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy as a National Coordinator for Malawi. With support from the NIMD, he spearheaded the formation of the Centre for Multiparty Democracy in 1995 and has served as its Executive Director to date. Among other duties, he is currently involved in coordinating a dialogue platform between the Electoral Commission and Political Parties. Kizito holds a degree in Public Administration and a Masters in Public and Development Management.

José Thompson, Costa Rican Law graduate, he is a Professor of International Law at the Law School of the University of Costa Rica since 1984. Dr. Thompson is the Director of the Center for Electoral Assistance and Promotion (CAPEL), a branch of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IHR), where he has been working since 1985. In the international field, he has worked as consultant of the Foreign Service of Costa Rica, the Minister Counselor and Consul General at the Costa Rican Embassy to Washington. Dr.. Thompson is also the author of several publications and articles.

Christiana Thorpe studied for her graduate studies in Ireland and France. In 2005 she became the first woman to be appointed Chief Electoral Commissioner of the National Electoral Commission, a position she still holds. She is the recipient of various national and international awards including The Sierra Leone Women of Excellence Award 2003, Grand Officer of the Order of the Rokel 2004, as well as the Civitan International USA/Sierra Leone Goodwill Ambassador Award 2006. Ms. Thorpe is a member of various national and international organizations, such as Board Member of the West African Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP), Board Member of the Electoral Institute for the Sustainability of Democracy in Africa (EISA) and Chairperson at the Institute of Electoral Administration and Civic Education.

Neel Kantha Uprety is the Chief Election Commissioner of Nepal, and he has been working in the election administration and management for over 21 years. He joined the Election Commission of Nepal (ECN) as Director of Information Technology Department and held various positions within the Election Commission. Since 1990, he has contributed significantly to the development of the computerized electoral roll in Nepal, modernizing electoral management through the use of information technology and capacity building. In 2004-2005, he worked for the United Nations as Senior Election Coordinator for conducting Presidential and Parliamentary Elections in Afghanistan. Mr. Uprety has authored several papers on his research in electoral systems, post-conflict elections management, and women's participation.

Leonardo Valdés Zurita holds PhD in Social Sciences with a specialization in Sociology from the Center of Sociological Studies of El Colegio de México. He was Executive Director of Electoral Organization at the Federal Electoral Institute (IFE), where he was member of the Commission of Experts appointed to study and research the options for the Mexicans voting abroad program. Dr. Valdés was Electoral Councilor of the Electoral Institute of Mexico City, where he headed the Electoral Organization Commission and President of the Directive Board of the Mexican Association for Electoral Studies. Dr. Valdés was appointed President Councilor of the IFE by a majority vote in the Chamber of Deputies in February 2008.

Malgorzata Wasilewska is currently Head of Unit for Democracy and Election Observation, European External Action Service.

Peter Wolf, an Austrian computer engineer, works for International IDEA in Stockholm. He focused on ICT applications in electoral processes since joining the Elections Department of OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1999. He was consultant and advisor in several voter registration projects and served as electronic voting and voter registration expert for various international observation missions. He developed training modules for election observers and contributed to several publications on elections and technology. At International IDEA he works on Elections and Technology, currently preparing a policy paper about the introduction of electronic voting, and for the ACE Electoral Knowledge Network.