



# ICCD COURIER

NEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR A COMMUNITY OF DEMOCRACIES

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## PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO CALLS FOR AN ASSOCIATION OF DEMOCRATIC NATIONS

Formation of an Association of Democratic Nations was the theme of the commencement address delivered June 8 at Harvard University by Prime Minister Bhutto of Pakistan. After expressing appreciation for the support provided by various governments to Pakistan and other countries which have recently joined the ranks of democracy, she urged that "Democratic nations should forge a consensus around the most powerful political idea in the world today: The right of people freely to choose their government."

On the basis of that consensus, she said, "...democratic nations should then come together in an Association to help each other and to promote what is a universal value—democracy." Prime Minister Bhutto listed various ways in which members of an Association of Democratic Nations could help each other—by observing elections, mobilizing international opinion against any anti-democratic coup, using foreign aid as a challenge and creating mechanisms to protect human rights, principles of justice and due process of law. While democracy is on the march, she added, "...we must be realistic. We must recognize that democracy, particularly emerging democracy, can be fragile."

### Parallels Conference Theme

The Prime Minister's remarks closely parallel the theme and recommendations of the All-Democracies Conference which met last December with former Presidents Gerald R. Ford and Jimmy Carter as co-hosts. In its Final Act the Conference proposed the formation of an intergovernmental Association of Democracies, an international network of citizens for

democracy and an International Institute for Democracy.

### Challenge to Governments

As the first head of government to advocate an Association of Democracies, Prime Minister Bhutto's leadership is a challenge to heads of other democratic governments to join in sponsoring the formation of an Association to consolidate and extend the Democratic Revolution.

The United States Senate has approved legislation calling on the President to give serious consideration to implementation of her proposal and to report on the merits and costs of establishing an Association of Democratic Nations.

Those wishing to congratulate the Prime Minister on her initiative should write care of the Honorable Iqbal Akhund, Advisor to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs and National Security, Foreign Office Building, Islamabad, Pakistan. Copies of her Harvard Commencement address are available from Pakistani Embassies or by writing CCD-USA.

## **GAMBIAN CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY**

On March 3, 1989 officials of the Government of the Gambia, briefed CCD-USA President Samuel De Palma on the establishment of a Gambian Centre for Human Rights and Democracy. The group included the Minister of Justice and Attorney General, Mr. Hassan Jallow (who participated in the ICCD African Regional Seminar in Mauritius in May 1987); Mr. Osman B. Sey, the Minister of External Affairs; Solicitor General, Mr. Raymond Sock and the Gambian Ambassador, Mr. Ousman Sallah.

### **Direction of the Centre**

Although established by the Gambian Government, the Centre is to be a regional effort to serve all member states of the O.A.U. in the field of human rights. It will be directed by representatives of the Gambian Government and organizations with an interest in human rights and democracy such as the African Bar Association, the Federation of African Trade Unions, and the African Commission on Human Rights. A number of individuals who are well-known for their expertise in the field of human rights will also be invited to become members of the Centre's Governing Council.

## **CARLTON TRIP ON ORGANIZING CITIZEN NETWORK**

Following up on the proposal of the All-Democracies Conference for the establishment of a Citizens Network for Democracy, the Hon. James Carlton, M.P. of CCD-Australia visited London, Ottawa and Washington during March. In London he consulted with Mr. Kenneth Aldred, Chairman of CCD-UK, and with Amnesty International about how that organization operates its world-wide network. In Ottawa, he held discussions with the Hon. David Kilgour, M.P. of CCD-Canada.

### **Draft Plan For Network**

During his stay in Washington March 21-22 Mr. Carlton reported on the results of his consultations and left a draft plan for the Network, which has been circulated to participants at the All-Democracies Conference for comment.

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### **Research and Training Mission**

The Centre's primary mission will be research and training and it has secured financing for two training programs this year from the United Nations Centre for Human Rights in Geneva.

## **SENATOR SAMPER RECOVERS FROM SHOOTING**

Senator Ernesto Samper Pizano has made a "remarkable recovery" after being seriously wounded on March 5, 1989 during a successful assassination attempt against Colombian communist leader, Jose Antequera. At the time of his departure from the hospital, the Senator was greeted with a demonstration of support by a crowd of well-wishers.

Senator Samper and Antequera happened to be at the Bogota airport awaiting the same flight when as many as four gunmen opened fire on Antequera, who was killed. Samper was shot seven times and hospitalized in critical condition. The attack, thought to be the work of right-wing extremists fighting a death squad-type war against extreme leftists, shocked Colombians and promoted calls by a wide range of political leaders for new approaches to stem the killings.

One of the founding members of the ICCD, and a participant at the All-Democracies Conference, Senator Samper is a leading Colombian politician. Following the assassination in August by drug gang terrorists of Luis Carlos Galan, the Liberal Party candidate for President, Samper became his party's choice and is currently campaigning for that office in elections scheduled for 1990.

# MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK

The bewildering impact of the Democratic Revolution on the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and China highlights the vital connection between political freedom and economic development. Communist governments have sought to dole out measured doses of political freedom primarily as an incentive to gain popular support for reforms needed to strengthen their stagnant economies. As demonstrated from opposite ends of the spectrum by Poland and China, however, they are discovering how difficult it is to contain political freedoms and to manage their interaction with economic development.

While the Communist experiment with democratization is a special case, the relationship between political freedom and economic development is also vital and difficult to manage in many politically fragile and economically weak countries elsewhere, even though they have made an unambiguous commitment to democracy. Some of these countries have little or no democratic traditions. Inexperienced governments are engaged in a struggle to satisfy the aroused expectations of their peoples and facing unrealistic populist demands even before they can put in place an effective system of democratic government.

While the Democratic Revolution has clearly demonstrated the failures of Communist governments and discredited their ideology, it does not necessarily herald the lasting triumph of

democracy elsewhere. Some of the new and troubled democratic governments may yet be overturned—as happened too often in the recent past—unless they receive appropriate forms of support and assistance and are persuaded to utilize them effectively.

This presents a huge task for the established democracies, a task which requires a new and comprehensive approach involving all democratic governments in a cooperative effort to consolidate and extend the Democratic Revolution. The individual pro-democracy efforts of the established democracies must continue and be expanded, but they have tended to be episodic and poorly or not at all coordinated. Sometimes their effectiveness is diluted when they are (rightly or wrongly) seen as motivated by national interest.

Bilateral pro-democracy programs need to be supplemented and coordinated by international mechanisms in which all democracies have a voice. A common effort will help to clarify objectives and priorities and could foster valuable regional initiatives taking advantage of common historical and cultural traditions.

The interrelated mechanisms proposed by the All-Democracies Conference would create the comprehensive international system required to consolidate and extend the Democratic Revolution.

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## CORRECTION

Inadvertently, a number of names were omitted from the list of those on the Working Group on the International Institute for Democracy at the All-Democracies Conference (see p 28 of the Conference Report). The following is the corrected list:

David Kilgour—Canada (Chair)  
Guillermo Perez Cadalso—Honduras  
Francisco Arnau Navarro—Spain  
Xavier R. Barron—Peru  
Lee Young Ho—Korea  
James Huntley—USA  
Germain Comarmond—Mauritius  
Ustun Erguder—Turkey  
Michael Colvin—U.K.

Archibald M. Mogwe—Botswana  
Jamil Mahauad W. Ecuador  
Roberto Murray Meza—El Salvador  
Arvind Deshpande—India  
William Clarke—Canada  
Jaime Arias—Colombia  
Herman L. De Silva—Sri Lanka  
Jed Johnson—USA  
John Reid—Canada

Humberto Briceno Leon—Venezuela  
Edgardo Boeninger—Chile  
Miguel Otero L.—Chile  
Netanel Lorch—Israel  
Hector Martin Sturla—Uruguay  
Jose Manzano—Argentina  
Akio Watanabe—Japan  
Moncrieff Spear—USA (Staff)  
Miguel Garza Delgado—Mexico

## BOOK REVIEW: "DEMOCRACY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES—ASIA"

A new study is under way at the Hoover Institution at Stanford to examine the experience with democracy of 26 different countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The democracy project is attempting to identify the social, cultural, political and economic conditions that make democracy succeed and grow.

"Democracy in Developing Countries—Asia" edited by Senior Research Fellow Larry Diamond, Professor Juan Kinz of Yale University, and Seymour Martin Lipset of the Hoover Institution, was published last March. Ten nations—India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Turkey—are surveyed.

A number of significant findings emerge from the Asia study:

- The great competing ideologies of the 20th century have been largely discredited. Fascism was destroyed during World War II; Marxism-Leninism is discredited.
- Democracy is the only model of government with any ideological legitimacy and appeal in the world today.
- There is a connection between capitalism and democracy...Where capitalism exists there is a trend toward democracy which in many cases leads to the emergence or return of democratic government.

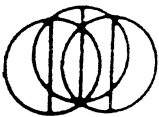
- Weak political institutions, and the corruption, mismanagement and lack of democratic commitment by leading politicians have been major causes of democratic breakdown in Asia.
- Democracy is in trouble in many countries in Asia. In India, Malaysia and Sri Lanka democracy is eroding, declining or is in serious jeopardy. A number of steps need to be taken there to strengthen these democracies; mainly steps those countries need to take themselves.
- Democratic governments must give ethnic groups and movements a meaningful opportunity to share power and control their own cultural affairs if ethnic violence is to be ended and controlled.
- There is an urgent need to strengthen the new democracies in South Korea and the Philippines. This requires improving democratic institutions such as political parties, the legislature and judiciary and reducing the role of the military.
- Democracy flourishes in a society where the power of the state is reduced and checks and balances exist...Democracy needs strong and autonomous interest groups, associations, mass media and local government.

Excerpted from an article by Ronald Getz, *New York City Tribune*, March 9, 1989

### ICCD COURIER

*The ICCD COURIER is an organ for communication and correspondence of the International Committee for a Community of Democracies, a network of private citizens, national CCDs and similar groups dedicated to strengthening solidarity and cooperation among democracies. CCD-USA serves as its interim secretariat.*

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