Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to CDI.NEWS from the Centre for Democratic Institutions, Australia.

CDI is Australia’s foremost democracy promotion and training institution, working in the area of good governance (particularly parliaments, judiciaries, civil society and media) with a geographic focus on Southeast Asia and the Southwest Pacific.

CDI’s mission:
-To harness Australian and international best practice in support of developing countries’ needs for democratic governance

CDI aims to provide:
- high quality training programs in key democratic institutions and processes
- in-country technical assistance
- applied research

CDI’s core budget is provided by AusAID, Australia’s Agency for International Development.

CDI.NEWS will keep you informed periodically of activities and upcoming events at CDI.

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1. CDI ADDRESS: SENATOR FRANCIS PANGILINAN OF THE PHILIPPINES

On 16 July 2003, CDI hosted Senator Francis Pangilinan who delivered a seminar at the Australian National University. Senator Pangilinan spoke on the topic ‘Philippine Politics Post-Estrada’. The Senator commented on the tension within the Senate following the
resignation of President Estrada and the debate over the legitimacy of his successor, President Arroyo. President Arroyo’s decision not to run for another term has reduced tensions within the Senate, though whether she will change her mind on this remains a topic of debate. Senator Pangilinan stated that at the heart of problems in the Philippines is the failure of Philippine institutions to address the needs of the population as well as the weakness of political parties. Senator Pangilinan noted that the current mood dominating the Philippines is one of resigned acceptance of government failure and lack of accountability. However, in concluding, Senator Pangilinan was optimistic. He identified the development of a growing demand for political reform.

Report page
Philippine Senate

2. EAST TIMOR JUDGES’ STUDY TOUR, DARWIN
Under a program of cooperation with the Federal Court of Australia, CDI developed an observational study tour that brought to Darwin two East Timorese judges - Judge Duarte Soares Tilman and Judge Deolindo Dos Santos. Justice Shane Marshall hosted the judges. From 28 May to 2 June 2003 the East Timorese judges observed hearings at the Federal Court in Darwin, the Federal Magistrates Court, Northern Territory Registry and Northern Territory Supreme Court. The study tour was built around the judges’ attendance at the Judicial Conference of Australia 2003 Colloquium. The conference and tour provided an opportunity for the East Timorese judges to learn about the Australian judicial system and share information and experiences with Australian magistrates, judges and lawyers.

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Federal Court of Australia

3. INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM COURSE FOR INDONESIA
In collaboration with the Centre for Democratic Institutions and the Australia Indonesia Institute, Murdoch University developed an Investigative Journalism Course conducted in Perth from 9-20 June 2003. CDI selected eight Indonesian journalists to attend the investigative journalism course. Professor Gail Phillips designed the course specifically for Indonesian journalists. Lectures were delivered by Murdoch University academics, practitioners from various Australian newspapers and IT companies. The course also included visits to the ABC radio studio, Parliament House and the Royal Commission on Police Corruption.

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Murdoch University
Australia Indonesia Institute

4. AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS HOLD WORKSHOP IN THAILAND
As part of the ongoing program between CDI and KPI, a team of Australian parliamentarians visited Thailand for a workshop with Thai counterparts in Bangkok on 8-9 July. Mr Bob Charles, Senator John Hogg, Mr Alex Somlyay, Senator John Watson and Mr Alan Griffin drew on their experience in the Joint Committee for Public Accounts and Audit to present case studies and discuss best practice. There were also presentations on Thai budget and audit processes and considerable discussion on ways to enhance the role of elected officials to fulfil their accountability responsibilities.

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Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit
King Prajadhipok’s Institute
5. HUMAN RIGHTS CAPACITY BUILDING IN THE ASIA PACIFIC

Amnesty International hosted the first meeting of the Asia Pacific Amnesty International Forum in Sydney from 28 June to 1 July 2003. On 30 June the Forum held a session on capacity building and Managing Director of Amnesty International Australia, Mara Moustafine, invited four speakers: Professor Julian Disney, University of New South Wales, Joan Staples, former Executive Director of the Diplomacy Training Program at UNSW, Kieren Fitzpatrick, Director of the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions and Roland Rich, Director of the Centre for Democratic Institutions. Amnesty International is a key pillar in the architecture of global civil society. But NGOs are only as effective as the skills of their members permit them to be. The meeting was therefore intended to focus attention on means of building human rights capacity in the region.

6. SOLOMON ISLANDS MEDIA WORKSHOP

At the request of the Media Association of the Solomon Islands (MASI), the Media Council of PNG (MCPNG) collaborated with the Centre for Democratic Institutions to conduct a media workshop in Honiara in June 2003. This workshop focused on three areas: information and technology; media experiences including general news coverage, crisis reporting, accountability and on practical experiences such as proposal writing, presentation and establishing training calendars. This workshop also led to the initial stages of drafting a media Code of Ethics, Constitution and Standards Committee with expertise and experience provided by the MCPNG. The workshop is a good example of South/South cooperation.

7. SOLOMON ISLAND NGO LEADERSHIP TRAINING COURSE – PHASE TWO

Phase Two of the CDI/ACFOA NGO Leadership Training Program took place in Honiara at the end of July thus proving to be a useful complement to the intervention, called Helpem Fren, to restore law and order in the Solomon Islands. This program began in February 2003 with Phase One- a Training Needs Assessment- while Phase Two involved the training of 18 NGO practitioners conducted by Emele Duituturaga, a Development specialist consultant and Joan Staples an international trainer. Training involved participants from five provinces in the Solomon Islands: Western Province, Malaita, Makira, Guadalcanal, Choiseul and in Honiara. Topics covered were NGO management, leadership development, advocacy, program planning and networking. The report will soon be posted on the website.

8. UPDATE: AVI/CDI VOLUNTEER IN THE INDONESIAN PARLIAMENT

As part of the Indonesian Parliamentary Strengthening Program, CDI in association with Australian Volunteers International (AVI) are sponsoring a two-year volunteer placement in the Indonesian House of Representatives (DPR) Secretariat. Since February 2003, Ms. Halina Nowicka has been working as a language and research consultant within DPR, teaching English, editing English language documents and assisting with English language research. Ms. Nowicka has made a positive contribution to the DPR and, after four months, has expanded her role to include teaching senior and junior staff within the DPR and improve the capacity of office communications.
9. THREE PRESENTATIONS IN JULY

CDI Director Roland Rich delivered three papers in July. On 2 July he addressed the Australian Institute of International Affairs in Canberra on the subject of The Consolidation of Democracy in Asia. The main themes of the paper were that Asia will be the laboratory for democracy in the twenty-first century. On 3 July he addressed the New Zealand Institute of International Affairs in Wellington on the subject The Quality of Democracy in the Pacific which compared democratic governance in the Pacific with other regions. On 5 July, Roland Rich participated in a panel discussion at the Annual Conference of the Australia New Zealand Society of International Law in the session dealing with International Governance and the Security Council. His paper dealt with The Crafting of UN Security Council Resolutions drawing on a chapter in a forthcoming publication on the United Nations role in Democratisation.

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Tigers Roar
Australian Institute of International Affairs
New Zealand Institute of International Affairs Wellington Branch
Australian & New Zealand Society of International Law
Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand – Faculty of Law

10. CDI DIRECTOR ON RADIO PROGRAM ABOUT THE DEATH PENALTY

On 15 July 2003 youth radio station Triple J featured a program on the death penalty during Steve Cannane’s weekly program ‘The Believers’. This piece reviewed the death penalty in light of the current trials of the Bali bombers and the looming trial of David Hicks, an Australian detained in Guantanamo Bay in Cuba. Triple J invited CDI Director Roland Rich to speak on the program after reading his paper entitled ‘Death Penalty: An Abolitionist Perspective’ delivered at the 12th Commonwealth Law Conference in 1999.

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** Forthcoming Events **

11. ‘PAYING FOR PARTIES - CHOICES FOR DEMOCRATS’ ADDRESS TO BE DELIVERED BY KAREN FOGG OF INTERNATIONAL IDEA

CDI has arranged for Karen Fogg, the Secretary-General of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) to deliver a talk entitled ‘Paying for Parties – Choices for Democrats’ to be delivered at 12.15 pm at Parliament House in Canberra on 12 August 2003. The address will be part of the Senate Occasional Lecture Series. Attendance is open to the general public.

Lecture Flyer (pdf)
International IDEA
Senate Occasional Lecture Series

**Book Review**

12. ‘POVERTY AND DEMOCRACY: SELF-HELP AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION IN THIRD WORLD CITIES’

‘Poverty and Democracy’ is edited by Dirk Berg-Schlosser and Norbert Kersting. It is a culmination of years of research and fieldwork and, through the perspective of shantytown dwellers in four countries, examines the intersection of poverty and democracy. This book review by Roland Rich will appear in the forthcoming edition of Development Bulletin.
**Recently Published Reports**

13. **TACKLING CORRUPTION AND ESTABLISHING STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE, OXFORD, MARCH 2002**

The May 2002 issue of CDI.NEWS reported on this conference. The final report by the Conference organisers is now available.

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14. **PAPERS FROM PARIS CONSULTATIONS AVAILABLE**

The May 2003 issue of CDI.NEWS reported on the consultations among democracy promotion foundations held in Paris in March 2003. Additional papers from the consultations are now available:

   a. Former French Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Hubert Vedrine - What perspectives are there for democracy in Africa?
   b. Mr Alain Lamassoure, MEP - The Reunification of Europe - The European Convention
   c. Baudilio Tome Muguruza, Foundation for Analysis and Social Studies, Spain - The work accomplished by foundations in Latin America
   d. President of the Robert Schuman Foundation Mr Jean-Dominique Giuliani - Closing Speech

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**Featured Web Article**

15. **'LIBERTY’S EXPANSION IN A TURBULENT WORLD: THIRTY YEARS OF THE SURVEY OF FREEDOM’**

This article by Adrian Karatnycky reviews findings over the past 30 years of ‘Freedom in the World’, a comparative survey on political and civil liberties conducted by the Freedom House that began in 1972. This article analyses the status of those countries ranked in the survey as Free, Partly Free and Not Free according to factors including the promotion of human rights; whether a country is an electoral democracy; the strength of the media; the development of civil society; security, corruption; accountability; and the promotion of and adherence to the rule of law. In his analysis, Karatnycky notes the dramatic change in the global political landscape marked by a progress in the expansion of freedom and democratic governance. Karatnycky comments on the global impact of the war on terrorism, in particular on the promotion of human rights.

Featured Article

The Freedom House ‘Freedom in the World’ survey

All suggestions and comments are welcome cdi@anu.edu.au

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