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STATEMENT OF THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTE (NDI) AND THE CARTER CENTER INTERNATIONAL ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION

INDONESIA'S JUNE 7, 1999, LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS

COUNTING AND TABULATION OF VOTES

Jakarta, June 20, 1999

In a preliminary post-election statement on June 9, 1999, the international observation delegation of the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) and The Carter Center stated that a judgment about the entire election process must await the completion of all its steps and committed that NDI and The Carter Center would continue to monitor the process and issue subsequent reports. In his comments on behalf of the delegation, President Carter repeated and reinforced that commitment. This report covers progress so far on the counting and tabulation of election results. It does not seek to analyze the political consequences of these results.

The findings of this report are based on meetings in Jakarta with political party leaders, members of the national electoral bodies including the KPU and PPI, representatives of the Indonesian media, and Indonesian domestic monitoring organizations. In addition, seven teams of observers were deployed across Indonesia from June 13 to 15, 1999. These teams met with local election monitors; members of the election administration including PPD I, PPD II, PPK and PPS; members of the election oversight committees (Panwas); and representatives of political parties. The findings appear generally consistent with those published by domestic election monitors.

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in each of Indonesia's provinces were communicated directly to a central point and statistically significant projections made. The mission notes that the results being published by the JOMC have largely converged with those from the PVT and also with the sum of unofficial provincial tallies assembled by the Antara news agency. The results from the KPU "Bank" system have been and remain substantially different, almost certainly because the huge preponderance of figures from Java and Bali in its returns inevitably make its national totals unrepresentative of Indonesia as a whole. NDI and The Carter Center will continue to monitor tabulation until the KPU signs off on the full manual count.

The very complex process of counting and tabulation has inevitably taken considerable time. It has been further delayed as a result of the very limited training received by election officials in

and East Aceh) within 30 days, as provided in the law. It reiterates its call in the June 9 preliminary statement for the new government to act as soon as possible to rebuild trust and confidence in these districts.

The relationship between the election administration and Panwas is not proving easy in a number of places. Many election administrators are keen to solve all problems themselves without involving Panwas, which they perceive to lack powers and effectiveness. The level of activity and engagement of Panwas is also very variable across the country. The mission intends to undertake a more detailed study of the work and possible development of the Panwas system.

NDI and The Carter Center will continue to monitor developments of all aspects of the election process and will issue subsequent reports.