



# European Commission United Nations Development Programme International IDEA

Francesco Torcoli  
Governance, Security, Human Rights & Gender  
AIDCO E4, EC

Joint Training on  
Effective Electoral Assistance

*Maputo – 23-28 June 2008*

**EU Electoral Observation Missions Methodology and Implementation**

In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa



# Election Observation – four questions:

**What is the history of EU EOMs?**

**What is the aim of EU EOMs?**

**What methodology is used on EU EOMs?**

**What is the future for EU EOMs?**

In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa



# History of EU Election Observation

**1993 in the Russian Federation and 1994 in South Africa**

**Until 2000 ad-hoc, case by case approach**

**2000 Communication on Election Assistance and Observation endorsed by EP and Council in 2001**

**Since 2000, more than 60+ EU EOMs deployed to Africa, Asia, Central and South America**

In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa



# Aim of EU Election Observation

**Genuine elections are an essential step for democracy,**

**Important element in the full enjoyment of a wide range of human rights**

**Important impact on the rule of law and the legitimacy of institutional frameworks**

In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa



# Aim of EU Election Observation

## Specifically:

**provide independent, neutral and professional assessment of the election process**

**enhance public confidence**

**deter fraud, irregularities and intimidation**

**contribute to conflict prevention and resolution**

**recommend possible improvements**

In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa



# Programming / Election priorities

**From 8 to 14 EU EOMs per year;**

**From 13M€ in 2004 to more than €30M€+ in 2007**

**Election calendar; “priority” and “to be followed”**

**All geographical services consulted**

**Consultation of Policy Unit and Working Groups of the Council**

**Information of EP Election Coordination Group**

**Political decision of Commissioner Ferrero-Waldner**

In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa



# Exploratory Mission

**Relex + Aidco + Desk + Experts + Delegation**

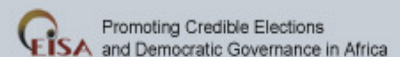
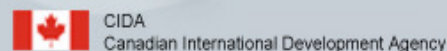
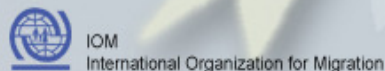
**Advisable? Useful? Feasible?**

**Minimum conditions**

- franchise is generally universal**
- political parties and candidates are able to take part in election**
- freedom of expression and movement**
- reasonable access to the media for all**

**Final decision by Commissioner Ferrero Waldner**

In collaboration with:





# Memorandum of Understanding

**Negotiated by Delegation under instructions from Relex  
(election observation desk)**

**Memorandum of Understanding signed between EC  
Delegation and the Government and/or**

**Memorandum of Understanding signed between EC  
Delegation and election administration**

**(+ MOU with the UN where necessary)**

In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa





# EU observation methodology

**Assessment of the election against international standards**

**2005 Declaration of International Principles for International Election Observation**

**Observe all aspect of the electoral process:**

- **legislative framework**
- **election administration**
- **campaign**
- **media coverage**
- **voting, counting and tabulation of results**
- **complaints and appeals**

In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



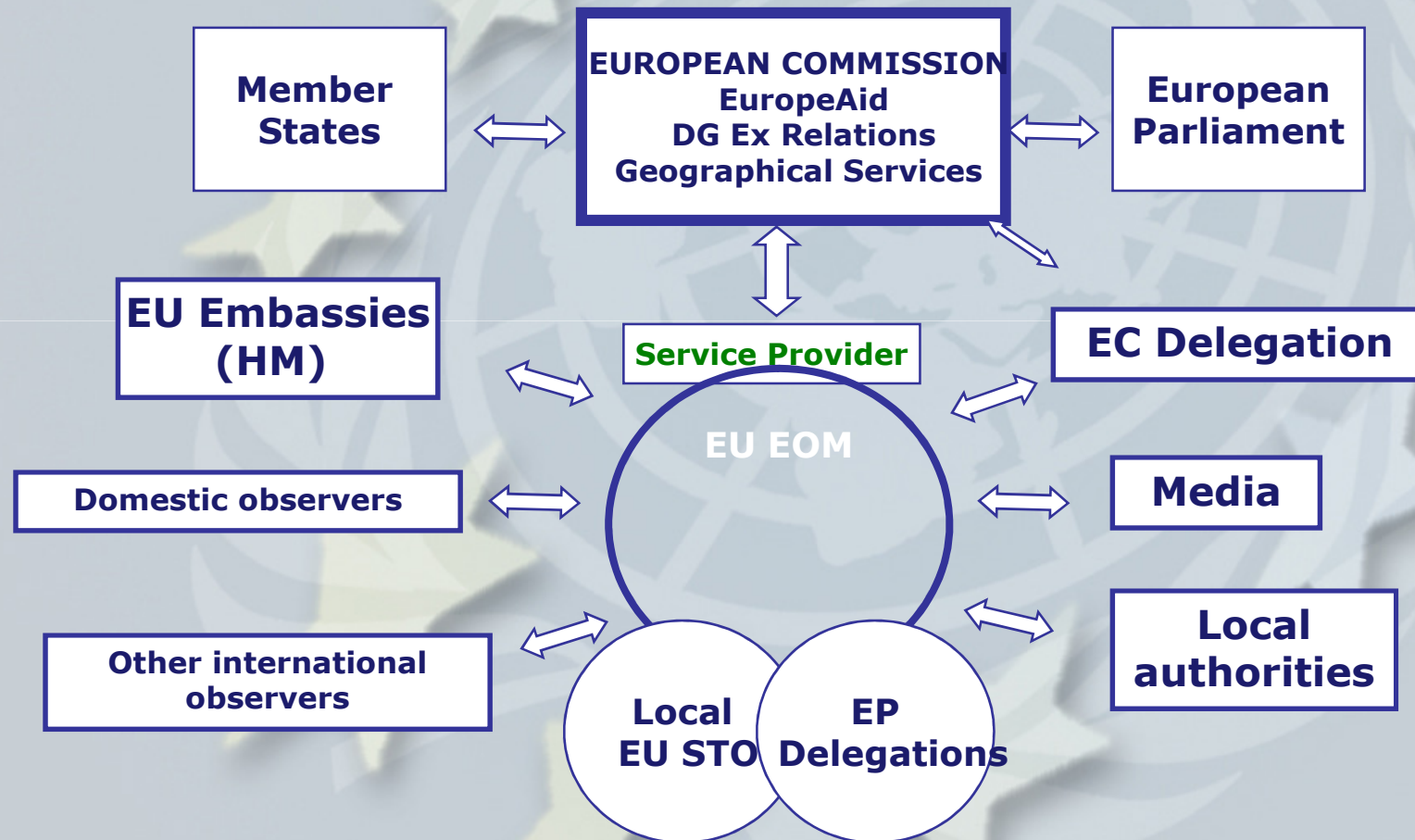
CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa



# EU EOM External Environment



In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa



# Preliminary Statement

usually issued within  
48 hours after an  
election

most important  
document issued by  
the EOM

high visibility



EUROPEAN UNION  
ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION  
WEST BANK & GAZA 2006

## STATEMENT OF PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS AND FINDINGS

Open and well-run parliamentary elections strengthen  
Palestinian commitment to democratic institutions

Jerusalem, 26 January 2006

*The European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) has been present in the West Bank and Gaza since 13 December 2005 following an invitation from the Central Election Commission (CEC) of Palestine. The Mission is led by Chief Observer Mr. Véronique De Keyser from Belgium, Member of the European Parliament. In total, the EU EOM deployed over 185 observers from 25 EU Member States as well as Norway, Switzerland and Romania. The observers were deployed throughout the West Bank and Gaza to assess the whole electoral process in the light of international principles for genuine democratic elections. The EU EOM was joined by a 27-member delegation from the European Parliament, the largest elected parliamentary observer delegation, led by Mr Edward McMillan-Scott MEP of the United Kingdom, who endorse this Statement. On election day, the observers visited over 800 polling stations in 14 of the 16 electoral districts in West Bank and Gaza to observe voting and counting. The EU EOM is currently observing the conclusion of the counting and result tabulation procedures and will remain in country to observe all aspects of the post-election process.*

### Preliminary Conclusions:

- The 25 January elections to the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) have so far marked another important milestone in the building of democratic institutions. These elections saw impressive voter participation in an open and fairly-contested electoral process that was efficiently administered by a professional and independent Palestinian Central Elections Commission (CEC).
- As with the 2005 presidential election, the Palestinian people have demonstrated an overwhelming commitment to determine their political future via democratic means, in spite of the uncertain conditions in which the elections took place: a background of delay, unacceptable levels of pre-campaign violence and an occupation that placed restrictions on the exercise of fundamental freedoms related to elections.
- Voting on 25 January proceeded smoothly and peacefully with an impressive turnout of 77 per cent of the total number of registered voters. Procedures were well-followed by CEC polling staff and domestic observers; and candidate representatives were present in almost all polling stations. The procedures for counting were similarly well-run. Campaigning was seen to take place both inside and outside of many polling stations, often vigorously and in contravention of the law. There were numerous shortcomings with the voting arrangements in East Jerusalem.
- The CEC commands a high degree of public confidence. It maintained integrity in the face of intimidation, including attacks on its buildings; and threats against staff, that sought to influence the candidate registration process. These attempts to pressure the election administration, all of which have gone unpunished, reflect a culture of impunity for militant groups that the Palestinian leadership must demonstrate more determination to end.
- Candidates from across the whole political spectrum participated in the elections. The campaign took place in a generally calm and positive atmosphere, with an absence of provocative rhetoric. However, restrictions by Israeli forces on the freedom of movement by candidates and voters; reduced the scope for genuinely free elections. Arbitrary restrictions on campaigning and the freedom of assembly by candidates in East Jerusalem led to a number of arrests and prevented a proper campaign from taking place in the city.

In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa



# Final Report



## LIBERIA

PRESIDENTIAL & LEGISLATIVE  
ELECTIONS

11 October 2005

FINAL REPORT

EUROPEAN UNION  
ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION

**Issued approx. one to  
two months after**

**Comments on all  
aspects of the elections**

**Includes possible  
recommendations to  
improve the process**

**increasingly important  
document in terms of  
follow-up**

In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



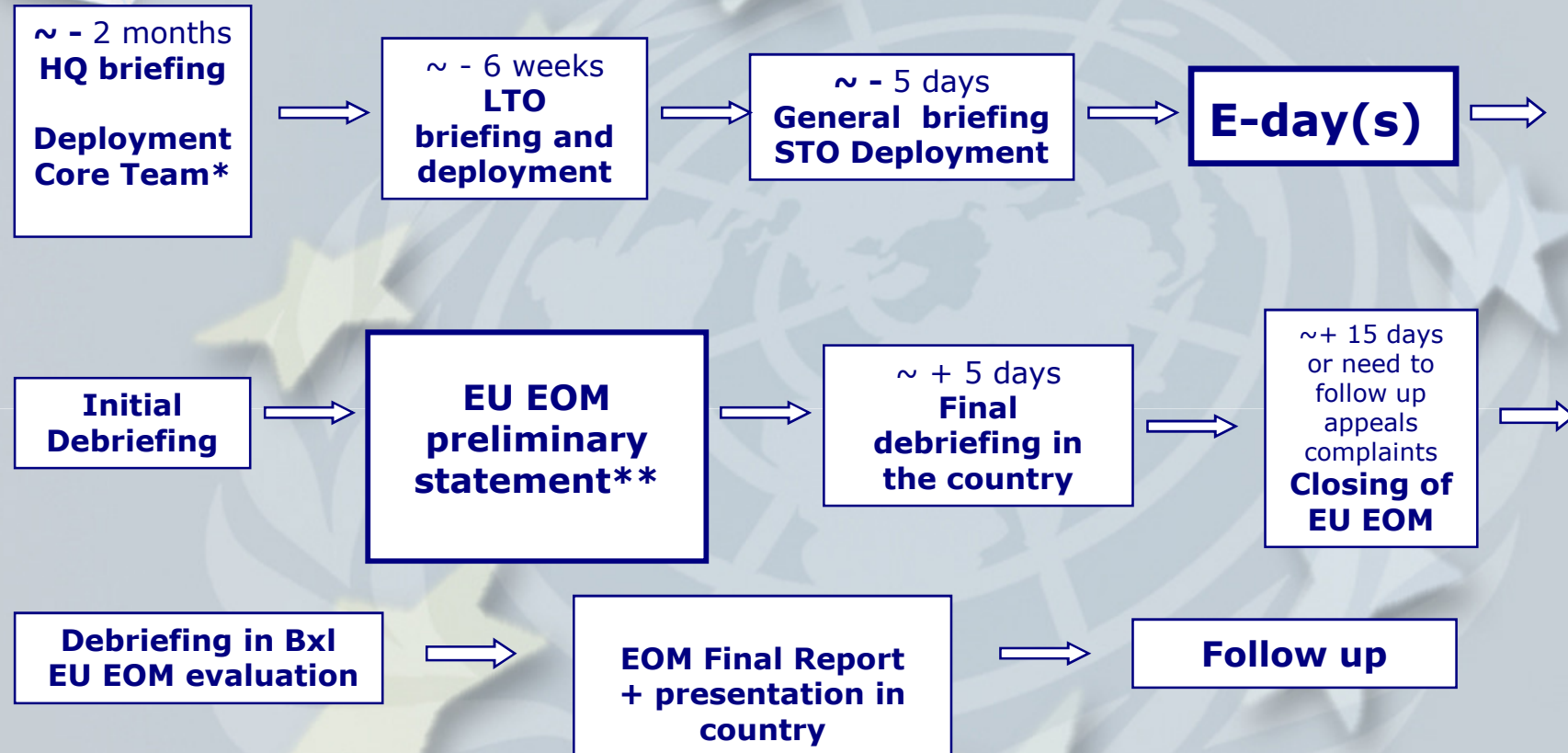
CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa



# EU EOM : Implementation cycle



\* during which:

1. Circulation of regular reports from the Mission to the Commission, Council, EP
2. Regular consultations between CO and Commission's Services (Del + HQ) and EU M States

\*\* The EU Presidency may also make a Declaration subsequent to the EOM's statement

In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa



# Core Team

**Usually between six to ten team members**

**Deployed for around two months to assess the election process following standard methodology**

**Co-ordinates and manages the deployment of LTOs and STOs**

**Led by a Chief Observer, usually MEP, appointed by Commissioner for External Relations**

In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa



# Core Team Members

**Chief Observer**

**Deputy Chief Observer**

**Legal Expert/Election Analyst**

**Country Expert**

**Media Expert/Press Officer**

**LTO Co-ordinator**

**Operations Expert**

**Security Expert**

**SERVICE PROVIDER**

In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa



# Long Term Observers (LTOs)

**Proposed by Member States  
via EC Roster**

**Deployed for around six weeks  
in pairs throughout the  
country**

**Between 15-60 LTOs**

**Follow electoral process at  
regional level**

**Co-ordinate STOs**



In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa





# Short Term Observers (STOs)

**Proposed by Member States via EC Roster**

**Deployed for around ten days over the election day period**

**Observe voting, counting and tabulation of results**

**Usually between 50-100 STOs**

**Can be joined by MEPs or locally recruited observers**

In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa



# Future Developments

**Further development of methodology in areas such as women and national minority participation, electronic voting, etc...**

**Increased focus on follow-up**

**Mainstream EOM findings and recommendations at various levels including:**

- EU declarations
- Political dialogue
- EIDHR programming
- Co-operation programmes

**Greater involvement in post-conflict elections**

In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa



# Follow-up of EUEOM recommendations: Hurdles

- Negotiation with National Authorities and EMBs**
- Involvement of Member States**
- Interaction with other actors, especially UN**
- Electoral Assistance Scenarios**
- Changes of staff at Delegation, HQ, EMBs...**
- Recommendations need to be drafted in such a way to be translated in activities**
- EUEOM: Limited of knowledge of electoral assistance, development cooperation and Project Cycle Management mechanisms**
- PIF, PF, FA, CA, QSG and ISC, EDF Committee...**

In collaboration with:



IOM  
International Organization for Migration



CIDA  
Canadian International Development Agency



Promoting Credible Elections  
and Democratic Governance in Africa



# Follow-up of EUEOM recommendations: solutions

- Mechanisms to institutionalize follow-up**
- Better coordination between EC services**
- Sierra Leone, Nigeria and DRC case**
- Electoral Cycle Approach**
- Methodological Guide on Electoral Assistance**
- Training on Effective Electoral Assistance for implementing agencies and electoral consultants**
- Synergies with NEEDS (training for observers)**
- How to: indicated in the Methodological Guide and new manual of EUEOM**

In collaboration with:

