

<u>Chile will host International IDEA Regional Office for Latin America</u> and the Caribbean

April 13-14, 2015 Santiago, Chile

As an important member state of International IDEA since its establishment in 1995, Chile has been actively engaged in initiatives to support democracy in Latin America and worldwide. This commitment is now further reaffirmed by Chile's decision to host International IDEA's Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean.

International IDEA's Secretary-General, Mr. Yves Leterme, was in Santiago from 13-14 April 2015 to sign the host country agreement with Foreign Minister Heraldo Muñoz. Thereafter, he met with President Michelle Bachelet to discuss continued collaboration between International IDEA and Chile.

International IDEA has provided advice in the recent state of democracy assessment of Chile, as well as shared its knowledge resources on constitutional reform, political financing and absentee voting. Also, Mr. Daniel Zovatto, International IDEA's Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, was appointed as a member of the Presidential Advisory Council against conflicts of interest, influence peddling and corruption in Chile.

Mr. Yves Leterme, former Prime Minister of Belgium, also met with former President Sebastián Piñera and former President Ricardo Lagos.

MundoChile had the honor of being the official providers of consecutive and liaison interpretation services for the delegation, accompanying IDEA's Secretary-General, Mr. Yves Leterme in all their meetings and visits in Chile.