



NASS

National Association
of Secretaries of State

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SECRETARIES OF STATE

INTERNATIONAL ELECTION PROTOCOL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, democracy and self-governance are the principles upon which the United States of America was built; and

WHEREAS, the United States has made the promotion of democracy a basic principle of its foreign policy; and

WHEREAS, the United States was a founding member of the Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE); and

WHEREAS, the United States signed the OSCE's Copenhagen Agreement, which allows member countries to observe each others' elections; and

WHEREAS, observing elections around the world provides government officials from OSCE member countries with an opportunity to learn about different election practices; and

WHEREAS, over the past two decades the United States has participated in international election observer missions to Russia, Mexico, South Africa, Indonesia and other countries; and

WHEREAS, the Secretaries of State believe that a citizen's right to choose his government is the basis for all other rights; and

WHEREAS, the Secretaries of State and other state and local election officials safeguard the integrity of the elections process in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the United States has an opportunity to promote good practices and information exchange by supporting OSCE international observers in this country;

THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED, be it resolved that the National Association of Secretaries of State welcomes OSCE international election observers from the OSCE member countries to the United States.

Adopted this 24th day of July, 2005
in St. Paul, Minnesota