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## CCD PUBLISHES SECOND EDITION OF THE DIPLOMAT'S HANDBOOK

**WASHINGTON, June 23, 2010** – The story of how diplomats from democratic countries have sought to support democracy and human rights in the difficult circumstances they confront in places like Cuba, Egypt and China is told in the just released, revised and expanded study, *The Diplomat's Handbook for Democracy Development Support*. The Handbook, first published by the Washington-based Council for a Community of Democracies, documents and provides a rationale for a relatively new dimension in international diplomacy, how diplomats support and promote democracy abroad. The project is directed by former Canadian Ambassador Jeremy Kinsman, and was originally conceived by former US Ambassador to Hungary, Mark Palmer. In addition to the new case studies of China, Cuba and Egypt, the Handbook Second Edition expands upon previous case studies, provides a revised list of resources of almost 200 organizations that support democracy and contains the international legal framework of agreements that allow democracy advocates to seek external support abroad and that permit democratic governments to provide such assistance.

The new edition of the Handbook has been published in Warsaw, Poland to be available to those participating in the July 2-4 High Level Meeting that is being held in Poland's historic city of Kraków. It is available online at [www.diplomatshandbook.org](http://www.diplomatshandbook.org).

The Handbook is a fact-based account of what diplomats from democratic member states have done over the last few decades to support democracy activists, human rights defenders, and civil society trying to operate in non-democratic countries, and assist democratic transition generally. In addition to presenting a wide variety of case studies documenting and explaining specific country experiences, it further identifies creative, human, and material resources available to embassies, the ways in which embassies of democratic governments and their diplomats have supported democracy movements in the past, and describes how such support has been applied. It also provides practitioners with encouragement, counsel, and a greater capacity to support democrats everywhere.

The Kraków High Level Democracy Meeting will commemorate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Community of Democracies (CD), which is presided over by Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland, Radosław Sikorski. US Secretary of State Hillary R. Clinton will attend as will the Foreign Ministers from a score of democratic nations. Over 100 human rights and democracy activists from every region of the world, press and leaders of non-governmental organizations will also be in attendance.

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*The Council for a Community of Democracies (CCD) is the only nongovernmental organization in the world with an exclusive focus on the CD. Since 2001, CCD has devoted itself to advocating for democratic change and international cooperation by working with civil society and governments around the world to making the CD a strong, democratic institution capable of addressing the needs of an ever-changing world. In efforts to strengthen the role of civil society within the Community of Democracies, CCD established the International Steering Committee, a global network of civil society organizations committed to democracy and human rights, and currently serves as its secretariat. In this capacity, CCD represents the views of civil society to governments within the CD framework and works to build civil society support networks, which in turn serve as a source of ideas, proposing and undertaking projects and participating in the CD's Working Groups.*

**Robert R. LaGamma, President, CCD, [bob@ccd21.org](mailto:bob@ccd21.org) (202) 789 9771 [www.ccd21.org](http://www.ccd21.org)**