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## **FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK**

As introduced in the March issue of the I.O.I. Newsletter, the I.O.I. will now provide a list service to its members. This is a communication service and it is available to all I.O.I. members. You are welcome to post information about your office, to ask questions on handling aspects of an investigation, to provide information on employment opportunities and any other information pertaining to ombudsmanship and the ombudsman institution. I hope that you will take the time to post to this list and to read the postings and discussions of others. As a long time participant on other ombudsman list serves I can tell you that I have learned a lot from this manner of communication with my fellow colleagues. There is a size restriction on list messages of 1 MB.

Presently, member email addresses are being prepared for the service.

The program we will be using to provide this service is called Mailman and it randomly creates a password for each subscriber and the I.O.I. Administrator, Diane Callan, will be able to remind subscribers of their password monthly and/or a subscriber may call or email to ask about their password if they've forgotten what it is. In addition, subscribers may change their passwords.

Very soon, you will receive an introductory test message from ioisecretariat.

If at any time you need assistance in using this list service, please use the word help in the subject matter of an email message and send it to [ioisecretariat-request@mailman.srv.ualberta.ca](mailto:ioisecretariat-request@mailman.srv.ualberta.ca) With the word 'help' in the subject or body (don't include the quotes), and you will get a message back with instructions. You must know your password to change your options (including changing the password, itself) or to unsubscribe.

To post to this list, send your e-mail to:

[ioisecretariat@mailman.srv.ualberta.ca](mailto:ioisecretariat@mailman.srv.ualberta.ca)

General information about the mailing list is at:

<http://www.mailman.srv.ualberta.ca/mailman/listinfo/ioisecretariat>

If you ever want to unsubscribe or change your options (i.e. switch to or from digest mode, change your password, etc.), visit your subscription page at:

<http://www.mailman.srv.ualberta.ca/mailman/options/ioisecretariat/dcallan%40law.ualberta.ca>

Postings will be archived. Archives are kept for one year. This will essentially be an unmoderated list serve and the member posting to it is responsible the appropriateness of content. I would like to thank Diane Callan for insuring that this important new service of I.O.I. is soon to be available.

Over the past several months your Board of Directors have been busy working individually and in small groups on the tasks we assumed at the extraordinary meeting of the Executive and Regional Vice Presidents in Mexico City. I anticipate we will have additional concrete examples of how the I.O.I. is working for you in our September newsletter.

Sincerely,

A black rectangular box containing a white, handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to be "William Angrick II".

William Angrick II  
President

## **CALLS TO HOST THE 2008 I.O.I. IXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE—BIDS ACCEPTED UNTIL DECEMBER 2005**

The I.O.I. Board is beginning to plan for the I.O.I.'s 2008 IXth International Conference. The I.O.I. will accept written bids from institutional members to host the IXth International Conference until the end of December 2005. Written bids can be sent to I.O.I., Faculty of Law, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2H5, Canada, fax: (780) 492-4924; e-mail: [dcallan@law.ualberta.ca](mailto:dcallan@law.ualberta.ca)

The past I.O.I. Conferences have been held in the following countries: VIII: Quebec City, Canada (2004); VII: Durban, South Africa (2000); VI: Buenos Aires, Argentina (1996); V: Vienna, Austria (1992); IV: Canberra, Australia (1988); III: Stockholm, Sweden; II (1984): Jerusalem, Israel (1980); I: Edmonton, Canada (1978).

## **BULGARIA APPOINTS ITS FIRST NATIONAL OMBUDSMAN**

The law on a Bulgarian Ombudsman entered into force on January 1, 2004. The Bulgarian Parliament was unable to muster the necessary consensus to elect an Ombudsman until April 2005.

On April 13, 2005, the Bulgarian Parliament elected Mr. Ginyo Ganev as Bulgaria's first national Ombudsman for a five-year term. Mr. Ganev is a lawyer. He has led the Fatherland Union party since 1990 which is now allied with the Socialist party. Mr. Ganev sat in three Communist Parliaments from 1986-1989 and was a member of the State Council during that period. Mr. Ganev became Deputy Speaker of Bulgaria's first democratic Parliament after the collapse of Communism and he chaired the parliamentary commission which drafted Bulgaria's 1990 Constitution (in force 1991). Work is currently underway to establish the Office of the Ombudsman.

See: "Bulgarian Mps Elect Socialist-allied Political Veteran National Ombudsman", *Bulgaria News Network* (April 13, 2005).

## **FIRST OMBUDSMAN FOR BERMUDA APPOINTED**

On May 17, 2005, Ms. Arlene Brock was appointed by Governor Sir John Vereker as the first Ombudsman of Bermuda. Prior to her appointment Ms. Brock served as the Chairwoman of the Bermuda Police Complaints Authority. Ms. Brock will take up her position once office facilities are in place.

The House of Assembly of Bermuda passed the *Ombudsman Act 2004* on December 3, 2004 and

the legislation entered into force on May 1, 2005. The legislation provides for an Ombudsman appointed by the Governor to investigate complaints of maladministration and submit annual reports to the House of Assembly (with copies going to the Governor and the President of the Senate). The legislation also permits the Ombudsman to deal with complaints by mediation.

### **LATVIA MOVES TO ESTABLISH A HUMAN RIGHTS OMBUDSMAN**

While Latvia has had a National Human Rights Office in place since 1996, the government is now moving to establish a human rights ombudsman institution. A bill to establish an ombudsman was introduced in the legislature in 2004 and the final parliamentary debate was expected to take place in May 2005. The bill also provides that the ombudsman will have jurisdiction over the rights of the child.

### **CHANGES TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE OMBUDSMAN OF NOVA SCOTIA**

The legislation and regulations supporting the Ombudsman of Nova Scotia have been amended. Henceforth school boards, child welfare agencies, licensed child-care facilities, nursing homes, residential care facilities for seniors, hospitals and community colleges now clearly fall within the jurisdiction of the Nova Scotia Ombudsman. The Ombudsman can investigate complaints from seniors and youths about conduct of provincial and municipal agencies involved in providing services to seniors, children and youth. Within the Ombudsman office, Youth services (previously called the Children's Section) takes complaints from children and youth.

See: NS Government News Release, "Young People and Seniors Benefit From Changes to Ombudsman Jurisdiction" (May 27, 2005).

### **LIKELY NEW ROLE FOR THE OMBUDSMAN OF THE CITY OF MONTREAL, CANADA**

A Montreal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities will go before Montreal City Council for adoption on June 20, 2005. The Charter has already been approved by the City's Executive Committee. If adopted, the Charter contains substantive commitments to improve municipal services made by the City of Montreal and its personnel. The Charter also gives the Ombudsman of the City of Montreal the mandate to investigate complaints that the City is not upholding the Charter's obligations, mediate and make public recommendations.

See: "Montreal Equips Itself with a Charter of Rights and Responsibilities", *CCNMatthews* (May 25, 2005).

## **APPOINTMENTS/RETIREMENTS/ANNIVERSARIES/AWARDS ETC.**

### **ANGOLA**

Mr. Paulo Tjipilica was elected as Angola's first Justice Ombudsman by the National Assembly on April 19, 2005 for a four-year term. Mr. Tjipilica is Angola's former Justice Minister and is a lawyer by profession. The Justice Ombudsman is a human rights ombudsman.

### **BULGARIA**

See above article entitled "Bulgaria Appoints its First National Ombudsman".

### **BURKINA FASO**

Madame Amina Moussou Ouedraogo was appointed *Médiateur* of Burkina Faso on April 1, 2005. Madame Ouedraogo has Licence and Master's degrees in law from the University of Aix-en-Provence, France. From 2002 to 2005 prior to her appointment as *Médiateur* she was the *Procureur Général* of the *Cours des Comptes* of Burkina Faso. She also served as Vice-President of the Supreme Court from 1996 to 2002 and served in other positions on the Supreme Court from 1991 to 1996. Madame Ouedraogo also served on the High Court of Justice from 1987 to 1991 and worked for the Ministry of Justice in various capacities from 1983 to 1987.

Mr. Jean-Baptiste Kafando, past *Médiateur* of Burkina Faso and an I.O.I. Board member, passed away on March 12, 2005.

### **CANADA—MANITOBA**

Ms. Irene Hamilton was appointed Ombudsman of Manitoba, effective March 31, 2005.

Ms. Hamilton has a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Manitoba and she was called to the Manitoba Bar in 1980. Prior to her appointment and since 2000, Ms. Hamilton was Assistant Deputy Minister of Justice responsible for the Courts Division. From 1991 to 1999 she was the Public Trustee of Manitoba. She worked for the Liquor Control Commission from 1981 to 1991, serving as Vice-President, Licensing and Corporate Counsel and Secretary to the Board of Commissioners and Liquor Licensing Board. Prior to her appointment Ms. Hamilton was a bencher of the Law Society of Manitoba.

### **CANADA—DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE AND CANADIAN FORCES OMBUDSMAN**

Ms. Barbara Finlay has been appointed Interim Department of National Defence and Canadian

Forces Ombudsman. Prior to her appointment Ms. Finlay was Director General of Operations in the Office of the Ombudsman. Past Ombudsman André Marin was appointed Ombudsman of Ontario in April 2005. The Ombudsman is an internal government department ombudsman.

## CROATIA

Mr. Jurica Malčič was elected Ombudsman of Croatia by the legislature on November 30, 2004. Mr. Malčič has a law degree from Zagreb University. He worked for the state administration until 1990, and subsequently was Deputy to the Chief of Staff and Adviser to the President of Croatia, Deputy Minister of Justice and Administration, Secretary to the Government and Minister of Public Administration. Mr. Malčič became a Judge of the Constitutional Court in 1994 and was named Vice-President of the Court in 1998. He replaces Mr. Ante Klarić.

## DJIBOUTI

M. Abdoukader Doualeh Wais, former Minister of the Interior and of Decentralization, has been named Mediateur de la Republique for Djibouti, replacing Monsieur Hassan Farah Miguil.

## ITALY—CAMPANIA

Mr. Vincenzo Lucariello has been appointed *Difensore Civico* (Ombudsman) of the Italian region of Campania. Before his appointment, Mr. Lucariello was Secretary General of the Regional Administrative Court of Campania.

## LITHUANIA

Ms. Virginia Pilipavičienė was appointed one of the *Seimas* (Parliamentary) Ombudsmen of Lithuania on January 20, 2005. Prior to her appointment, Ms. Pilipavičienė was a legal adviser to the Ombudsmen's Office since 1996. She has a law degree from Vilnius University. She replaces Ms. Rimantė Šalaševičiūtė who has been appointed Lithuania's Ombudsman for the Protection of the Rights of the Child.

Ms. Albina Radzevičiūtė was appointed as a *Seimas* Ombudsman on February 15, 2005. Prior to her appointment, Ms. Radzevičiūtė was a Legal Adviser to the Committee on Legal Affairs and to the Chairman of the *Seimas*. She has a law degree from the University of Vilnius. She replaces Ms. Elvyra Baltutytė who has been appointed representative of the government of Lithuania at the European Court of Human Rights.

## NETHERLANDS

Mr. Frank van Dooren became Deputy Ombudsman of the Netherlands on January 1, 2005. Prior to his appointment Mr. van Dooren was a Judge at the Court of Appeal in the Hague and

Vice-President of the District Court of Rotterdam (1993-2003). Mr. van Dooren has also headed the Electoral Council.

Mr. Roel Fernhout, National Ombudsman of the Netherlands, has announced that he will not stand for reelection as Ombudsman when his term expires on October 1, 2005.

#### SOUTH KOREA

Mr. Cho Young-Hoang, Chief Ombudsman of South Korea and I.O.I. Regional Vice-President for Asia, has been appointed Chairperson of South Korea's National Human Rights Commission by President Roh Moo-Hyun. Mr. Cho had developed a well-known expertise as a human rights lawyer during his legal career.

Mr. Song Chul-Ho has been appointed as the new Chief Ombudsman of South Korea. Prior to his appointment Mr. Song was a labour, human rights and environmental lawyer. The new Secretary General of the Ombudsman Office is Mr. Shin Cheol-Young. Prior to his appointment Mr. Shin was the Secretary General of the Citizens' Coalition for Economic Justice, one of the largest Korean NGOs.

#### SWEDEN

Ms. Cecilia Nordenfelt was appointed one of the Ombudsmen of Sweden on January 1, 2005. Prior to her appointment Ms. Nordenfelt was Senior Secretary in the Parliament's Committee on Justice. She has worked for the Swedish Parliament in various capacities since 1987. Ms. Nordenfelt also has served as Associate Judge of Appeal in the Svea Court of Appeal. She replaces Ms. Anna-Karin Lundin who has become a Justice of the Swedish Supreme Administrative Court.

#### SWEDEN—OMBUDSMAN AGAINST ETHNIC DISCRIMINATION

Ms. Katri Linna was appointed as Sweden's new Ombudsman Against Ethnic Discrimination in March 2005. Ms. Linna is a lawyer by profession and most recently has served as the chief lawyer for a trade union of industrial office workers.

#### UNITED KINGDOM—BERMUDA

See above article entitled "First Ombudsman for Bermuda Appointed".

#### UNITED KINGDOM—WALES

Mr. Adam Peat has been appointed as the new Public Services Ombudsman for Wales. A bill to

establish a Public Services Ombudsman for Wales was introduced in December 2004 and received Royal Assent on April 7, 2005. The legislation merges the offices of the Welsh Administration Ombudsman, the Health Services Commissioner for Wales and the Commissioner for Local Administration in Wales. It is expected that the changes will be in place by April 2006 at the latest.

## UZBEKISTAN

On April 19, 2005 Mrs. Sayera Rashidova was reelected by the legislature on the nomination of the President as Uzbekistan's Authorized Person of the *Oliy Majlis* for Human Rights for a five-year term.

## VANUATU

Mr. Peter Taurakoto was appointed Ombudsman of Vanuatu by the President in April 2005 for a five-year term. Prior to his appointment Mr. Taurakoto was a politician. He replaces Mr. Hannington Alatoa, who completed his term as Ombudsman in June 2004, and Mr. Iolu Abbil, who was appointed Interim Ombudsman in November 2004.

## PAST/UPCOMING CONFERENCES

MAY 29-31, 2005—CANADIAN COUNCIL OF PARLIAMENTARY OMBUDSMAN ANNUAL MEETING—HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

The 2005 Annual Meeting of the Canadian Council of Parliamentary Ombudsman is being held on May 29 to 31, 2005 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, hosted by the Ombudsman of Nova Scotia.

JUNE 15-18, 2005—OMBUDSMAN CONFERENCE—KAZAN, RUSSIA

A joint conference between the European Ombudsman Institute (EOI) and the Human Rights Commissioner of the Republic of Tatarstan in the Russian Federation is being held on June 15 to 18, 2005 in Kazan, Russia. Almost thirty of the eighty-nine regional governments in the Russian Federation now have human rights commissioners. The conference is being organized in part to bring together these regional institutions and ombudsman institutions in other European countries in order to share experiences on their respective activities. The topic of the conference is "The Possible Contribution of the Ombudsman to the Prevention and the Avoidance of Religious, Ethnic and Social Conflicts". To obtain a detailed program of the conference please contact the EOI at: [eoit@tirol.com](mailto:eoit@tirol.com).

JULY 18-21, 2005—THE OMBUDSMAN ASSOCIATION (TOA) TRAINING COURSES—CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, U.S.A.



The Ombudsman Association (TOA) is holding a series of training courses at the Palmer House Hilton, Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A. from July 18 to 21, 2005. “Ombuds 101” will be held on July 18-20, 2005, “101 Plus” will be held on July 20, 2005, an Intermediate Workshop on “Skills for the Experienced Ombuds” will be held on July 19-20, 2005 and the Specialized Series “Legal Issues From the Edge” will be held on July 21, 2005. For further information see <<http://www.ombuds-toa.org/downloads/JULY2005RegistrationPage.pdf>>.

## **CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS TO I.O.I. 2005 DIRECTORY**

### **CANADA—SASKATCHEWAN**

The new e-mail address for the Saskatchewan Ombudsman Office, Canada is as follows:

<[ombreg@ombudsman.sk.ca](mailto:ombreg@ombudsman.sk.ca)>

### **SPAIN—GALICIA**

The correct address and coordinates for the *Valedor do Pobo* of Galicia follows:

Pazo do Parlamento  
Rua do Hórreo, 65  
E-15700 Santiago de Compostela  
Spain  
tel: + 3498 1569740  
fax: +3498 1572335  
<[valedor@valedordopobo.com](mailto:valedor@valedordopobo.com)>

### **I.O.I. INDIVIDUAL & ASSOCIATE MEMBERS—CANADA**

For the Public Service Integrity Office, Canada, the office-holder should be Mr. Pierre Martel, and not Mr. Peter Martel.

## **I.O.I. PUBLICATIONS**

### **(2003) VOLUME 7 OF THE INTERNATIONAL OMBUDSMAN YEARBOOK**

(2003) Volume 7 of *The International Ombudsman Yearbook* has been completed and submitted to Martinus Nijhoff Publishers for publication. It is anticipated that Volume 7 will be ready for distribution in August. Volume 7 will contain a selection of papers presented at the I.O.I.’s VIIIth International Ombudsman Conference held in Quebec City, Canada in September 2004.

The volume also contains articles by André Marin on “Demonstrating Your Value”, Lisa Statt Foy on “A First Nations Ombudsman: Some Considerations” and Catarina Sampaio Ventura and Jo\_o Zenha Martins on “The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union: A Landmark in the European Landscape and the Prospect for a Dynamic Role of the Ombudsman”.

#### I.O.I. OCCASIONAL PAPER SERIES—PAPER ON NEW SOUTH WALES OMBUDSMAN

Together with this issue of the *Newsletter* I.O.I. members will receive I.O.I. *Occasional Paper* No. 82 by Bruce Barbour, Ombudsman of New South Wales on “The Ombudsman and the Rule of Law”. The Occasional Paper focuses on the work of the New South Wales Ombudsman.

#### NEWS ITEMS, ARTICLES ETC. FOR I.O.I. PUBLICATION

We encourage the submission of news items for publication in the *Newsletter* and the submission of articles, manuscripts and lectures for consideration of their publication either in the *Occasional Paper* series or *The International Ombudsman Yearbook*. In particular, the Editor wishes to receive papers for consideration of their publication in (2004) Volume 8 of *The International Ombudsman Yearbook* and news items for the September 2005 *Newsletter*. We appreciate the regular receipt of information from member offices on changes in appointment, retirements, etc. for inclusion in the *Newsletter*.

Please note that the Editorial Advisory Board is in operation for anonymous review of papers submitted in consideration of their publication in the *Yearbook*.

Please submit all material to:

Professor Linda C. Reif  
Editor of Publications  
International Ombudsman Institute  
Faculty of Law, University of Alberta  
Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2H5, Canada  
tel: (780) 492-2800, fax: (780) 492-4924  
e-mail: lreif@law.ualberta.ca