

UN Signs Cooperation with ICC World Chambers Federation

New York/Kuala Lumpur - 4 June 2009: The United Nations Secretariat today signed a key cooperation agreement with the International Chamber of Commerce's (ICC) <u>World Chambers Federation</u> (WCF) at the 6th World Chambers Congress which began this morning in Kuala Lumpur Malaysia and ends on 6 June.

The agreement formalizes a voluntary and global partnership in which the WCF will actively provide support through its own resources, networks, systems and tools, as well as encourage vendors seeking business opportunities to use the UN procurement system.

The UN, acting through its Office of Central Support Services (OCSS), <u>Procurement Division (UN/PD)</u> finalized the Agreement with the ICC World Chamber's Federation (WCF). Paul Buades, Director of the UN/PD signed on behalf of the Organization with Rona Yircali, Chairperson of the ICC/WCF.

Under the agreement, the parties will identify new business opportunities for members of the ICC/WCF; support the outreach needs and efforts of the UN to increase its vendor database; educate ICC/WCF staff and vendors about doing business with the UN procurement system; and register more vendors from countries categorized as developing or as economies in transition in the UN Global Market Place (UNGM).



L-R: Rona Yircali, Chairperson ICC/WCF; Paul Buades, Director UN/PD

UN/PD, acting as the UN Secretariat Procurement Focal Point, together with UN Funds and Programmes and specialized agencies, will assist WFC by providing information, education tools, and up-to-date information on UN procurement operations.

The signing took place today following a presentation on United Nations Procurement Opportunities. During that session participants at the Congress were briefed on providing their respective chambers of commerce with direct links into UN Secretariat Procurement and on developing new business opportunities for ICC/WCF member companies. The presentation was moderated by Paul Buades.

Panelists representing the UN system today included: Lisa Fraser, Member States Liaison Officer for Business Seminars, UN/PD; Giorgio Fraternale, Deputy Director and Head, Procurement and Contracts Division, World Intellectual Property Organization; Kiyohiro Mitsui, Chief, Integrated Support Service, UN/PD; Niels Ramm, Procurement Officer and United Nations Global Marketplace Project Manager, United Nations Office for Project Services; Susan Struck, High Level Committee of Management's (HLCM) Procurement Network Secretariat, United Nations Development Programme Procurement Support Office.

For previous details see UN press release ORG/1514 of 28 May 2009 http://www.cn/News/Press/docs/2009/org1514.doc.htm or http://www.un.org/depts/ptd/

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