



## Parliamentarians for Global Action

### Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) Holds Annual Elections for Executive Committee and International Council

#### For Immediate Release

NEW YORK, January 13, 2005 – Elections for Parliamentarians for Global Action's (PGA) Executive Committee and International Council took place December 5, 2004 during the annual meeting of the International Council. The meeting was held in the Parliament of New Zealand in Wellington, in parallel to PGA's 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum which focused this year on the *Third Session of the Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians for the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the Rule of Law*.

**Hon. Ross Robertson**, MP (New Zealand), Assistant Speaker, was elected as Chair of the International Council and **Mr. Jeppe Kofod**, MP (Denmark) was elected as Treasurer. Elections were also held for six members on the Executive Committee. The results were: **Dip. Margarita Stolbizer** (Argentina), **Sen. Raynell Andreychuk** (Canada), **Sen. Wakako Hironaka** (Japan), **Sen. Bassey Ewa-Henshaw** (Nigeria), **Ms. Fatima Nagdee-Hajaj**, MP (South Africa), and **Mr. Kent Olsson**, MP (Sweden). **Sen. Alain Destexhe** (Belgium), **Dip. Minou Tavaréz Mirabal** (Dominican Republic), and **Rep. Dennis Kucinich** (United States) have one more year to serve on the Committee.

In addition, seven members were elected to the International Council: **Sen. Marcelo Lopez-Arias** (Argentina), **Dep. Orlando Fantazzini** (Brazil), **Dr. Ra'Ed Qaqish**, MP (Jordan), **Mr. Naveed Qamar**, MP (Pakistan), **Ms. Svetlana Smirnova**, MP (Russian Federation), **Dep. Mamadou Lamine Thiam** (Senegal), and **Sen. Tom Harkin** (United States). The following MPs will complete their term in 2005: **Mr. David Kilgour**, MP (Canada), **Mr. Murli Deora**, MP (India), **Hon. Harry Duynhoven**, MP (New Zealand), and **Mr. Remo Gysin**, MP (Switzerland)

Several Chairs of PGA's National Groups were elected by national elections to the International Council for 2005: **Sen. Maria Perceval** (Argentina); **Dep. Jules Daleba Zozoro** (Côte d'Ivoire); **Dr. Mohamed Ahmed Saleh**, MP (Egypt); **Mr. M.J. Nolan**, MP (Ireland); **Dep. Harouna Keita**, MP (Mali); **Dr. Noor Jehan Panezai**, MP (Pakistan); **Dep. Khalifa Abubacar Sall** (Senegal); **Mr. Ibrahim Sorie**, MP (Sierra Leone); **Ms. Birgitta Ahlqvist**, MP (Sweden); **Mr. Remo Gysin**, MP (Switzerland); and **Rt. Hon. John Battle**, MP (United Kingdom).

PGA operates under the political direction of the Executive Committee and the International Council. The Committee meets twice a year to decide on PGA's future programme activities. Members are elected on a 40:60 either gender ratio. The Council represents all regions of the world and each country where PGA has members can be represented with no more that two members. All elected members of the Committee and or the Council serve for two years with a maximum of two consecutive terms.

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