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DES DROITS DES ENFANTS

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FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

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INTERNACIONAL DE  
LOS DERECHOS DEL NIÑO

## ***BRIEF NEWS FROM IBCR***

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*Welcome to another edition of our informal newsletter, BRIEF NEWS FROM IBCR, which is published on an occasional basis to share with you the happenings and developments at the IBCR.*

*With these newsletters, we aim to bring you up to date on our successes, projects, introduce you to some of our collaborators and summarize for you our more important meetings.*

*We hope that you will once again enjoy this more relaxed and easy-to-read format for communication that gives you an open window into the everyday world of the IBCR.*

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## **Our New Director Has Arrived!**



I am aware, as are all the administrators and employees of the Bureau that our new General Director, Nadja Pollaert has taken on a great challenge as of October 1<sup>st</sup> 2007. Replacing Jean-François Noël is no easy task and the temptation of not comparing her to her predecessor won't be easy, but this is something that we must all resist.

I told Nadja that there is no replacing Jean-François; rather we will just be adding a new chapter. Jean-François had great qualities; however the Board of directors, as well as its President has the utmost confidence in those displayed by Nadja. We aren't hiding anything by confessing that we had absolutely non doubts in confirming Nadja to fulfill this mission.

Her professional and personal path – she has been all over Europe, Africa and North America and speaks four languages easily – speaks greatly about her abilities. She is a woman with strong convictions, involved in the Human Rights movement, and able to move mountains when she feels strongly about a cause; needless to say that she will find numerous ways to use her talents while at the Bureau. Her ability to adapt quickly will ensure her grasping of the international dimension of the Bureau's involvement.

Nadja Pollaert is familiar with the Bureau through her work and her friendships therein. This is not uncharted territory for her and she is well regarded. She is being welcomed with open arms by a team that plans on continuing, furthering and expanding all the work that has been done over the last decade.

I have no doubt that Nadja Pollaert will ensure the continuity of the Bureau by bringing her undeniable added-value to the benefit of the rights of children worldwide. Her touch will quickly be felt by all those involved. Her excellent work will be now more than ever in full view of international audiences and will bring about a new breath of fresh air to the Bureau.

She can count on our backing and confidence in her.

All the best to the new Director General of the Bureau...for the following decade.

President

*Jean Pierre Rosenczveig*

## A Brief-Biography of Nadja Pollaert

After having started her University studies in Germany, Nadja Pollaert received her diploma in International Relations from the *Institut d'études politiques* in Paris. She also received her Master's degree from the University of Montreal which enabled her to explore the integration of women from the North African Muslim world.

For many years she worked as the Coordinator of the Committee to Aid Refugees defending the rights and advocating for asylum seekers and as a militant for Amnesty International. Ms. Pollaert has also worked as a cultural and political affairs consultant for the Representation of the State of Bavaria (Germany) in Quebec.

As a coordinator for the Quebec Federation *Nourri Source*, she worked at promoting breast feeding and collaborated on the international initiative *Amis de bébés-Baby friendly Initiative*. As the mother of two children, early childhood development is of great interest to her.