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**INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS** Commission internationale de juristes - Comisión Internacional de Juristas

" dedicated since 1952 to the primacy, coherence and implementation of international law and principles that advance human rights "

## COMMUNIQUE DE PRESSE – COMUNICADO DE PRENSA

The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) is honoured to announce the election of Professor Pedro Nikken as ICJ President. Pedro Nikken who has been a member of the Commission for a number of years, was elected ICJ President on 21 January 2011. He succeeds Mary Robinson who served in the role from 2008 – 2010.

Pedro Nikken is a former Judge (1979-1989) and President (1983-1985) of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. He served as UN Independent Expert on El Salvador from 1992 to 1995 and from 1990-1992 he served as Legal Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on El Salvador's peace process. In 1995 he served as Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General to Burundi. He is former Dean and Professor (emeritus) at the Law School of the Universidad Central de Venezuela. He is also former President and Permanent Counselor of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights. He is a Member (Chair N° 9) of the Venezuelan National Academy of Political and Social Sciences.

He is currently serving his third term as ICJ Commissioner.

The International Commission of Jurists is dedicated to the primacy, coherence and implementation of international law and principles that advance human rights. The Commission was founded in Berlin in 1952 and its membership is composed of up to sixty eminent jurists who are representatives of the different legal systems of the world. Based in Geneva, the International Secretariat is responsible for the realisation of the aims and objectives of the Commission.

The ICJ is an international non-governmental organisation comprising sixty of the world's most eminent jurists and has a worldwide network of national sections and affiliated organisations

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