

PRESS RELEASE // FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

London, February 2008



[photo: Patrizia Semprebene Buongiorno, new IAPCO President]]

Italy wins Presidency

At the recent General Assembly in Auckland, New Zealand, Patrizia Semprebene Buongiorno, of AIM-Group AIM-International was unanimously elected as IAPCO's next President. She takes over the office immediately and was delighted to receive the vote of confidence. "It is an honour and pleasure for me to be President of IAPCO. On behalf of the new Council members I thank all of you for your endorsement with the remit to continue improving the professionalism of our business. With Quality as the industry's buzz word, it is exciting for me to be President of such a Quality Association. Last year the Quality Committee was established with the implementation this year of an annual quality self-assessment programme, the latest step from IAPCO in its continuous efforts to improve the service standards of its members." André Vietor steps down as President to take up the post of Chairman of the Committee of Ethics, yet a further endorsement of IAPCO's Quality Programme.

Patrizia has been the Managing Director of the three AIM-Group AIM-Congress offices, an ISO certified company, in Rome, Milan and Florence for the past 16 years. Recently she has managed the expansion of the company with offices in France, Belgium and the Baltics. Together with her husband Gianluca, President of the Group with over 320 staff members, she is involved in the organisation of national and international association meetings primarily in the biomedical sector. In addition to her appointment as the new IAPCO President, Patrizia is a member of the IAPCO

Training Academy and also on the Faculty in a Master's Programme on "Tourism Management" at the University of Rome "La Sapienza" and the IULM University of Milan (Master in Tourism Management).

ABOUT IAPCO: Meeting Quality

IAPCO, founded in 1968 and celebrating its 40th Anniversary, is the worldwide association representing professional congress organizers. With over 100 members, IAPCO organizes every year its annual meeting and general assembly in a different city and plays a leading role in the promotion and professionalization of congress organization in the world (Annual Wolfsberg Academy, Regional Seminars, political actions). IAPCO also publishes a number of documents including a code of ethics, a dictionary of technical terms (in 14 languages) and working brochures IAPCO is a member of the Joint Meetings Industry Council – JMIC.

For further information, please contact:

IAPCO Head Office : Brambles House, Colwell Road, Freshwater, PO40 9SL, UK

Email: info@iapco.org www.iapco.org