

Profiles of IDEA Delegation

IDEA Secretary-General, Mr. Bengt Säre-Söderbergh

You have met Mr. Säre-Söderbergh on two separate occasions: once in Stockholm, the other time in Ottawa. Mr. Säre-Söderbergh headed the International Centre of the Swedish Labour Movement from 1978-1985 (later re-named the Olof Palme International Centre). Following that, he was appointed Deputy Minister for International Development Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was awarded the Order of Merit by Polish President, Lech Walesa for his contributions to the transition in Poland and an Order of Merit by the Parliament of Mozambique for his work to combat colonialism and apartheid. Mr. Säre-Söderbergh is President of the Swedish Jazz Federation. In 1993-94, he chaired a Parliamentary Commission (1993-4) to review the goals and structures of Swedish museums. He has been a Deputy Governor of the World Bank and Swedish Governor of the Asian, African and InterAmerican Development Banks. In March, 1995, Mr. Säre-Söderbergh assumed his current post at International IDEA.

IDEA Senior Executive: Dr. Daniel Zovatto

Dr. Daniel Zovatto is an Argentinean national with extensive academic credentials. He studied Law and Diplomacy in Argentina and Spain. He holds a Master's in Public Management from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and a PH.d in International Law from Complutense University, Spain. Prior to joining IDEA in May 1997, Dr. Zovatto was Assistant Director of the Inter-American Institute for Human Rights in Costa Rica. He has served as the Executive Director of the Centre for Promotion and Electoral Assistance (CAPEL), and as Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Electoral Union. Dr. Zovatto has published several books and many articles on democracy and human rights.

IDEA Senior Executive: Mr. Ron Gould

Mr. Ron Gould is Assistant Chief Electoral Officer at Elections Canada. As part of the agreement between IDEA and Elections Canada, Mr. Gould has been loaned to the Institute for four months as Senior Executive in charge of election programmes. His position at IDEA has been renewed for 1998. Mr. Gould has served on numerous Electoral Observation missions across the globe and is viewed as one of the world's leading experts in his field. In addition to his professional life, Mr. Gould's has volunteered his services to work with emotionally disturbed children and the Big Brothers Organization. Mr. Gould was awarded a Member of the Order of Canada in 1997 and a Medal of Honour from the United Nations Association, Canada.