

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**UFI President Elected  
to Drive New Association Decisions**

**Paris, France:** Ruud van Ingen has been unanimously elected as President of UFI – the International Association of the Exhibition Industry for a 2-year term. The Association’s General Assembly, meeting in Cairo on September 20, gave their full support to van Ingen as he promised to move forward with programmes and changes initiated by his predecessor, Sandy Angus (Chairman, Montgomery Exhibitions – UK).

“Under the leadership of Sandy Angus we have taken important measures to move our association in the direction the industry is demanding. Filling Sandy’s shoes will definitely not be an easy task. He has set into motion many programmes which I am now entrusted to realize.”

Under the statutes approved at the 2003 General Assembly, Angus will stay on for the next year in a newly created post for UFI’s immediate past President. In this capacity he becomes Executive Vice-President of UFI and will be ensuring continuity in the implementation of the organization’s new strategy. Angus and van Ingen pledge to work closely together to ensure that the Association stays on the track now laid for the future of the organization.

‘UFI must develop the programmes needed by our industry on a global level,’ said van Ingen. Focussing on his objectives for UFI’s future, van Ingen identified the direction he will be driving the association for the next two years. “As UFI President, I will ensure that the association serves, promotes and represents the interests of the trade fairs and exhibitions industry.”

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Van Ingen has earned an international reputation in the trade fair and exhibition sector, working with Jaarbeurs Utrecht. He is now President of the Foundation Royal Dutch Jaarbeurs, a leading company in the Netherlands in the exhibition, congress and leisure industry. As an active participant in UFI, van Ingen has been a member the association's Steering Committee since 1994.

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*Attachment 1: CV, Ruud van Ingen, UFI President*

*Attachment 2: Photo Ruud van Ingen, UFI President*

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*UFI, the International Association of the Exhibition Industry, represents the trade fair and exhibition industry worldwide. Via its 248 member organisations, including the world's leading show organisers and fairground owners, 37 professional associations and 11 industry partners, UFI is present in 74 countries in 154 cities on 5 continents. UFI members around the world organize and operate over 4,000 events every year.*

**For more information please contact:**

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Attachment 1Curriculum Vitae**Ruud van Ingen**

Ruud van Ingen (57 years) is currently the President of the Foundation Royal Dutch Jaarbeurs, a leading company in the Netherlands in the exhibition, congress and leisure industry.

The Foundation is the holding company of:

- a. Jaarbeurs Exhibition and Media, the exhibition organizing company; a joint venture with VNU-Europe. Ruud van Ingen is currently the Chairman of the Supervisory Board also.
- b. Jaarbeurs Utrecht; the venue for exhibitions, congresses and leisure (theatre and casino).
- c. Jaarbeurs Catering; a well known catering company, on the spot as well as in the country.

Ruud van Ingen graduated from HBO (Netherlands) in 1969, and completed his studies in the USA with management courses at Cornell University.

Ruud van Ingen was, until the end of 2002, the President and CEO of all the above-mentioned Jaarbeurs companies. He has, and has had, many additional functions in various fields, e.g. politics, healthcare, and education. Among these he has served as Board Member of the Employer's Organisation of the Netherlands, the Chamber of Commerce of Utrecht, and the Dutch/German Chamber of Commerce. He is also a Board member of EMECA (European Major Exhibition Centres Association).

Mr. van Ingen has been a Counsellor of the UFI Steering Committee since 1994. Royal Dutch Jaarbeurs, trade fair/exhibition organizer since 1917, is a founding member of UFI.

