



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **SID welcomes a new Vice President**

**SID's President Juma V. Mwapachu is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Jean Gilson as Vice President of the Society for International Development.**

*'SID could not have a more impeccable and distinguished individual as Jean Gilson joining the organization as Vice President at a pivotal moment when SID is reviewing its relevance and scope of roles in a fast changing global development scene. The whole idea of development and the perspective of international cooperation for development is going through a sea change. As an intellect-driven honest broker in this complex brave new world, SID's leadership at the helm has the challenging task to articulate new pathways and trajectories that help to stimulate imaginative and plausible ideas that are both dynamic and interrogative. Jean is one person that fits this challenging environment. Her broad work experience involving diverse international development roles in developing country environments and in the USAID as well as the leadership position she occupies in the key US private sector will offer SID yet another shot in the arm at a critical moment in SID's new thrusts for renewed intense international presence and pre-eminence. I look forward to working closely with Jean as SID prepares to roll out its plans and programmes for the World Congress in 2016,' said Amb. Mwapachu.*

*'SID's great strength is its global perspective, based on a worldwide network of individuals and institutions,' said Gilson. 'I'm grateful for this opportunity to support the SID network and help bring its insights to the development debates of our time.'*

Jean Gilson is Senior Vice President, Strategy and Information Technology at DAI, where she oversees strategy formulation and execution, communications and brand, and information technology. A member of the company's executive team, she leads DAI's engagement with the international development community on fundamental technical issues, pressing industry debates, and the global development agenda. She has been elected by her fellow employees to serve no fewer than three terms on DAI's Board of Directors. She has also managed two overseas subsidiaries, managing DAI offices in Hanoi, Bangkok, and Manila.

Prior to DAI, Jean served as USAID's first Country Representative in Hanoi since the end of the Vietnam War. She opened that office in September 2000 and managed it for four years, earning distinguished service awards from both the Department of State and the Government of Vietnam - the first American to achieve such a distinction. Jean later worked for two years as USAID's Senior Policy Advisor to the Millennium Challenge Account Secretariat.

As a private sector executive and public servant, Jean has worked, lived, and traveled extensively overseas, gaining experience in all facets of bilateral and multilateral development programs and policy

Jean holds a master's degree in international law and economics from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy; she earned her undergraduate degree from Georgetown University.

Jean is not new to SID and its network. She has extensive experience and knowledge of the Society and of its main challenges as she is now serving her third two-year term on the Board and Executive Committee of the SID Washington D.C. Chapter.

As Vice President, Mrs. Jean Gilson will join SID's President Juma Mwapachu and the other members of the SID Governing Council in the challenging task of reviewing and implementing the strategic plan of the Society towards the 2016 World Congress.

### **Governing Council 2012-2015**

The SID Governing Council for the period 2012-2015 comprises: Juma Mwapachu (Tanzania), President; Jean Gilson (USA), Vice President; René Grotenhuis (Netherlands), Treasurer; Stefano Prato (Italy), Managing Director; Council Members: Akwasi Aidoo (Ghana), Inés Alberdi (Spain), Larry Cooley (USA), Betty Maina (Kenya), Philip Oxhorn (Canada) , Benito de Miguel (Argentina), Sam Mwale (Kenya), Norbert Noisser (Germany), Jetti Oliver (India), and Cream Wright (Sierra Leone).

#### Contact details:

Society for International Development, International Secretariat, Office of Rome  
Via Ardeatina, 802, 00178 Rome, Italy | T. +39 064872172 F. +39 064872170  
E. [azarro@sidint.net](mailto:azarro@sidint.net) | [www.sidint.net](http://www.sidint.net)