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## Instituto Promundo Executive Director Gary Barker to Join ICRW

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**, Sept. 11, 2008 – The International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) is pleased to announce the appointment of Gary Barker as senior technical adviser for the gender, violence and rights team, where he will lead efforts to advance ICRW’s cutting-edge research and development trends to promote gender equality and women’s rights.

“Gary is a prominent figure in the international development community, and his move to ICRW heralds an exciting future for our organization,” says ICRW Chief Operating Officer Sarah Degnan Kambou.

Barker, an internationally recognized expert in men and masculinity, comes to ICRW with extensive experience in how to design and implement policies and programs that engage men and boys to end violence against women and to achieve equality between the sexes.

“Having collaborated with ICRW on various projects while at Promundo, I am thrilled to be joining the organization,” says Barker. “It’s an exciting moment in the field of achieving gender equality, with a growing recognition of the need to work with women *and* men to promote the cause – and ICRW is increasingly at the forefront of this.”

Prior to ICRW, Barker served 10 years as the founding executive director of Instituto Promundo, a Brazilian nongovernmental organization (NGO) that works globally with men and boys to promote gender equality and reduce violence against women. Barker has carried out research and program development on men, violence, health and conflict in a range of international settings, including Brazil, sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. He has co-authored numerous training materials related to gender and health, and is internationally recognized for his contributions to the Program H series, a set of innovative programs designed to work with young men to promote gender equality and reduce gender-based violence.

Barker is a founding co-chair of MenEngage, a global alliance of NGOs and U.N. agencies that works to engage men and boys in efforts to promote gender equality and end violence against women, of which ICRW is an active international member. He is an Ashoka Fellow and was awarded an Individual Projects Fellowship from the Open Society Institute.

Barker is transitioning out of his current responsibilities and will join ICRW in February. He will continue to collaborate with Promundo as a Board member and assist its incoming co-directors, Marcos Nascimento and Christine Ricardo as they assume their new roles.

Barker received his M.A. in public policy from Duke University and his Ph.D. in developmental psychology from the Erikson Institute of Loyola University, Chicago.

*The International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) is a leading Washington-D.C.-based international research organization that works to improve the lives of women and girls in developing countries. To learn more, visit [www.icrw.org](http://www.icrw.org).*

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