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PRESS RELEASE

The International Council of Museums (ICOM) is pleased to announce **the appointment of Medea Ekner as the interim Director General**, effective 1 June 2023. With her extensive experience in the museum sector and strong leadership skills, Medea Ekner is ready to lead ICOM into a new era of renewal and innovation.

Ms Ekner was elected as Vice Chair of the ICOM Advisory Council and held this role until her appointment as interim Director General; and is a former Chair of ICOM Sweden and Board Member of the ICOM Nord Regional Alliance.

Medea Ekner is a future oriented museum strategist, a museum and leadership consultant, who has been working in the art and museum sector for twenty years in Sweden, and New Zealand.

She brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to her new role at ICOM. Her diverse background encompasses strategic planning, museum management, and fostering international collaborations, making her an ideal choice to lead ICOM during this transitional period.

ICOM President Emma Nardi expressed her trust in Ms Ekner's ability to guide ICOM through this interim period:

"ICOM values its historical heritage, but also recognizes the need for a renewed institution that adapts to the modern world. I am convinced that Medea Ekner, as interim Director General, is seen as the ideal person to both preserve our traditions and drive innovation."

As the interim Director General, she will work closely with ICOM's Executive Board, committees, and Secretariat to develop strategic initiatives that advance the organization's goals, under the **2022-2028 Strategic Plan**. Commenting on her appointment, Medea Ekner expressed her enthusiasm for the assignment:

"I'm honoured and humbled to accept this responsibility and excited to fulfil the goals and missions, as well as meet the challenges, of a global organization in transition."

The appointment of Medea Ekner as interim Director General marks an exciting chapter for ICOM. Her passion for museums and dedication to preserving cultural heritage will undoubtedly propel ICOM's mission forward, inspiring museums worldwide to thrive in an evolving landscape.

ABOUT ICOM

The International Council of Museums (ICOM) is the global network of museum professionals, committed to promoting and protecting cultural heritage. With over **51 000 members** in **131 countries**, ICOM serves as a platform for knowledge exchange, professional development, and collaboration among museums and museum professionals worldwide.



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