



THE TRAVEL PARTNERSHIP CORPORATION WELCOMES TWO NEW MEMBERS TO ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WASHINGTON, D.C. (April 4, 2006) - Internationally recognized world tourism leaders Márcio Favilla, executive secretary of the Ministry of Tourism of Brazil, and Paul Laeremans, president of the International Road Transport Union and managing director of the Fédération Belge des exploitants d'Autocars et d'Autobus et des organisateurs de voyages (FBAA), have been elected to the board of directors for The Travel Partnership Corporation (TTPC), a consortium of travel industry organizations representing all key segments of the industry, which affords the travel industry its own dedicated top-level domain on the Internet, **.travel**.

The TTPC Board will also be welcoming Michael Feldman, Director of Passenger Services for the International Air Transport Association (IATA). Feldman will hold IATA's permanent seat on the TTPC Board, replacing former IATA representative Kevin Dobby, the association's senior vice-president and corporate secretary. With the Board since its inception, Dobby has contributed greatly to the establishment and success of the **.travel** domain.

Favilla and Laeremans were elected to the board of directors on March 7 at the TTPC's recent board meeting in Berlin. With the addition of the new members, the TTPC currently has 15 travel industry authorities seated on its board including:

- Tanya Abrahamse - Executive Director, Travel Business Council of South Africa (TBCSA)
- Ron Andruff – President & CEO, Tralliance Corporation
- Birger Backman, Senior Advisor, United Federation Of Travel Agents' Associations (UFTAA)

- Jean-Claude Baumgarten - President, World Travel & Tourism Council
- Peter de Jong - President & CEO, Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA)
- Michael Feldman - Director, Passenger Services, International Air Transport Association (IATA)
- Michael Gehrisch - President & CEO, International Association of Convention & Visitor Bureaus (IACVB)
- Tunku Iskandar - Chairman, Intra-Asean Travel Committee
- Nancy Johnson - Executive Vice President, Carlson Hotels Worldwide
- Tom Jenkins - Executive Director, European Tour Operators Association (ETOA)
- Ashwini Kakkar - CEO & Managing Director, Thomas Cook India Ltd.
- Victor S. Parra - President & CEO, United Motorcoach Association
- Dr. Sabine Schaffer - Vice President of Investments, Evolvence Capital

About The Travel Partnership Corporation

The Travel Partnership Corporation is a Washington-based non-profit corporation formed to promote the addition to the Internet of the top-level sponsored domain (sTLD) known as **.travel**. The TTPC recommends policies and practices concerning the eligibility to register names with the **.travel** Internet domain. For more information, visit www.ttpc.org.

#

For more information:

- Juny Francois, The Travel Partnership Corporation, tel: (212) 481-0773, jfrancois@ttpc.org
- Noel Perkins, YPB&R Public Relations, tel: 407-838-1797, noel_perkins@ypbr.com