On behalf of the Executive Committee, I am pleased to announce the launch of a permanent website for the International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners. This special issue of the newsletter announces and celebrates the launch of the new website. I encourage member authorities to visit the site and provide feedback on it.

A permanent website has been a long term Conference goal. Indeed, we are now approaching the 10th anniversary of the Conference’s seminal Montréal Declaration adopted in 2005. That declaration concluded with the assembled Commissioners agreeing ‘to create a permanent website in particular as a common base for information and resources management.’

The Conference returned to the issue in detail in Montréal in 2007 when the Conference received the report of the Working Group on Conference Organisational Arrangements and by resolution ‘reaffirm[ed] its intention….to establish a permanent website presence.’

The case for a permanent website has long been obvious. The collective agreement to have one has also been clear. Unfortunately for a decade it simply hasn’t materialised.

The Conference’s lack of capability to achieve its practical and strategic goals has concerned many Commissioners over the years and is a continuing focus for both the Executive Committee and the Working Group on Strategic Direction. To make progress, the Executive Committee Secretariat (the New Zealand Office of the Privacy Commissioner) has stepped up to build this vital resource. I hope that this new tool will be a catalyst to further progress as the Conference moves forward.

Finally, it is fitting to note that the website will be the repository of various documents I have referred to in this brief introduction. You will find on the website – either now or when the website build has been completed in the coming months – copies of the Montréal Declaration and relevant Working Group reports. The permanent repository of Conference documentation will help ensure that our collective work and ideas will not remain overlooked for so long in the future.

John Edwards
New Zealand Privacy Commissioner and Chair of the ICDPPC Executive Committee
New Permanent Conference website launched

The Executive Committee Secretariat is pleased to introduce to the membership the new permanent Conference website. The website is a one-stop-shop for permanent Conference documentation. It will also build up to be a record of historic forums held over the decades. However, the website is more than simply an archive of documentation. It will also have dynamic and interactive features like a newsfeed and events calendar. This special issue of the newsletter briefly outlines aspects of the website but there is much more to it and we encourage people to explore its contents for themselves.

The Conference website is found at www.icdppc.org.

The website as permanent conference repository
A key feature of the website is the ‘document archive’. There are many documents already loaded but the repository is not yet complete. Key parts include:

♦ Declarations and communique – the earliest so far traced is the Venice Declaration of 2000.
♦ Conference documentation including rules, procedures, accreditation and the like will more easily be found on the website.
♦ Committee documents – this part of the website remains under construction but it will provide a vehicle to keep members informed of the Executive Committee’s workings.
♦ Working group reports – the Secretariat is working to make these resources again accessible to the data protection community.

The website as an historical record
The Website will include:
♦ Formal records of the Conference’s work.
♦ Pictorial records of the Conferences gatherings – the formal sessions, the personalities and perhaps a few candid photographs …
♦ Back issues of Conference newsletters.
♦ Written accounts of the conference’s history and achievements.
♦ Background reports that explain adopted resolutions etc. and place them in context.

The website as a working current resource
The website will include details of forthcoming events and news feeds from members. It will also become the place to obtain:

♦ Details of meetings of international organisations where the Conference has sent an observer.
♦ Reports of Executive Committee decisions.
♦ Authoritative lists of members, observers and participants in the enforcement arrangement.
♦ Application forms to become accredited as a member or observer or to sign up to the enforcement arrangement.

“The website is a one-stop-shop for permanent Conference documentation”
Website contributions welcomed

The website is an evolving resource and will depend upon input from Conference members to reach its full potential. The Secretariat particularly welcomes member contributions in the following areas:

♦ **Photographs:** The website features pictures from past conferences but there are gaps in the historical record. Do you hold a snapshot from one of the early conferences? If so, we would welcome receiving an electronic or scanned version for the website.

♦ **News from members:** We have built a newsfeed 'ticker-tape' built upon RSS news releases from member authorities. If your authority maintains a RSS newsfeed that is not yet captured on the website please send the details to the Secretariat for inclusion.

♦ **Translations:** Not all the resolutions on the website are translated. If you hold an official or unofficial translation of any resolutions we would welcome receiving them for posting on the website.

♦ **Events calendar:** Please let the Secretariat know if you are hosting an event to which other member authorities are invited and likely to attend and the Secretariat will add the details to the calendar.

♦ **Working Group papers etc.:** The website document archive is an incomplete 'work in progress'.

If you have copies of reports missing from the website please send the Secretariat an electronic or scanned copy.

Contact the Secretariat at: ICDPPCExCo[ at ]privacy.org.nz
The International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners (ICDPPC) was established in 1979 and has been the premier global forum for data protection authorities for over 3 decades.

The Conference seeks to provide leadership at an international level in data protection and privacy. It does this by connecting the efforts of about 100 privacy and data protection authorities from across the globe.

This website provides a permanent repository of core Conference documentation and select information about the Conference's past and current activities and future plans.

**The Conference and Executive Committee**

The Conference's vision is an environment in which privacy and data protection authorities around the world are able to effectively fulfill their mandates, both individually and in concert, through diffusion of knowledge and supportive connections.

**Participation in the Conference**

The Conference is an entity representing the collective accredited members. Public authorities that meet the criteria for membership set out in the Conferences rule and procedures can apply for accreditation. There are currently about 100 data protection and privacy authorities accredited as members of the Conference.

**Document Archive**

Document Archive of resolutions, declarations & communiques, working group reports, rules & procedures, accreditation and committee documents.

**News & Events**

Newsletter, forthcoming conference updates, events calendar and news from members.

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