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INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH MERGES WITH WORLD EDUCATION

BOSTON, May 16, 2002: The boards and staff of World Education and the Institute for Development Research are pleased to announce their merger, effective May 7, 2002.

“As the world we work in has changed over the past year, international development—particularly education and work with civil society groups—is more important now, than ever,” said World Education President, Joel Lamstein. “This merger combines the expertise and resources of two strong international development organizations which both address inequities in developing countries,” he said. “Both organizations have partnered together on projects over the years—it’s a natural fit.”

World Education is a Boston-based nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of the poor through economic and social development programs. Since 1951, World Education programs have contributed to individual growth as well as to community and national development. It is known for its work in education in the workplace, micro-enterprise development, and integrated literacy and health programs, including HIV/AIDS education, prevention and care.

IDR is known for its work with civil society organizations to find practical solutions to real challenges and to develop new understanding that guides future thinking and action. Its work over the last 18 years includes major contributions in:

- Civil society strategic thinking and organizational development,
- NGO policy advocacy and transnational advocacy alliances
- NGO/government and NGO/private sector relationships
- International development partnerships
- Participatory action research methodology

As a part of World Education, IDR will continue to support the evolution of civil society through research, knowledge dissemination, and capacity building. It will also support and enhance World Education’s ongoing civil society programs. Jane Covey, past president of IDR, will lead this work.