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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Dutch Leader Wim Kok Joins the Board of the Global Fairness Initiative**

Willem (Wim) Kok, former Prime Minister of the Netherlands, officially joined the Board of Directors of the Global Fairness Initiative on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2005,

The Global Fairness Initiative (GFI) is a non-profit organization that works towards a more equitable, sustainable approach to globalization by nurturing innovations in trade and development generated in the global South, and developing strategies so that these ideas could be implemented. The organization works worldwide with current projects in Ukraine, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Central America and the US.

Following the GFI annual board meeting, GFI president Karen Tramontano remarked “as a visionary leader in an era defined by globalization, Wim Kok brings to GFI demonstrated mastery for engagement as a tool positive change. For this rich contribution, we are truly grateful and excited.”

President Bill Clinton, the Chair of GFI’s Board noted that “Wim Kok has been an outstanding leader of Europe, as well as the Netherlands, and I have admired him for many years.”

Wim Kok served as Prime Minister and Minister of General Affairs of the Netherlands for two terms from 1994 through 2002. During his tenure, he led the country through a period of unprecedented economic boom and was credited internationally for the innovative Dutch “Polder Model” of consensus-oriented governance. Prior to this, Mr. Kok chaired both the Netherlands Federation of Trade Unions and the European Trade Union Confederation.

In 2004, Mr. Kok led a comprehensive review of the European Council’s Lisbon Agenda and presented a set of recommendations for building productivity and economic growth for the nations of the EU.

In addition to the Global Fairness Initiative, Mr. Kok also sits as a member of the Supervisory Boards of the ING Groep NV, TPG NV, KLM NV, and the Royal Dutch/Shell Group.

For more information on the Global Fairness Initiative, please visit:  
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