



Contact:  
Rob Nooter  
Executive Director  
Overseas Cooperative Development Council  
(703) 247-7563  
Rob.Nooter@ocdc.coop

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **OCDC board names Crear chair**

Washington, D.C. (Feb. 6, 2009) – Pete Crear, president and CEO of World Council of Credit Unions has been named chair of the U.S. Overseas Cooperative Development Council, an association dedicated to applying cooperative techniques to help disadvantaged people in developing countries. His one-year term as chair began in January.

“OCDC is delighted that Pete is assuming the role of board chair,” said Rob Nooter, OCDC’s executive director. “With a new administration taking office, and Congress planning to reauthorize the legislation that guides U.S. policy on foreign assistance, this is a critical time for cooperatives to create opportunities for increased emphasis on achieving economic growth through member-owned businesses. Pete’s experience, judgment and leadership will be needed in addressing the challenges and opportunities we will confront this year.”

Crear, who has served on OCDC’s board since 2005, said, “My goal as chair is to continue expanding our expertise in helping the poor in developing countries in ways that are meaningful to the goals and objectives of OCDC and its members.”

OCDC’s eight member organizations have served as international development partners with the U.S. government and currently have multi-year projects at work in more than 70 countries worldwide. The organization’s mission is to champion, advocate and promote effective international cooperative development. Its members are: ACDI/VOCA, Americas Association of Cooperative and Mutual Insurance Societies, Cooperative Communications International, CHF International, Land O’Lakes International, National Cooperative Business Association, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association International, and the World Council of Credit Unions.