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PEOPLE IN THE LAW

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MIR NICHOLAS R COWDERY QC, DPP

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The New South Wales Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr N R Cowdery QC, has been elected to the office of President of the International Association of Prosecutors. This is an international body comprising Directors of Public Prosecutions, persons holding equivalent office and prosecutors generally. Mr Cowdery succeeds the DPP of the Irish Republic. The election took place at a meeting of the Association held in Beijing, China in conjunction with the Association's Fourth Annual Conference in September 1999. Mr Cowdery holds office for three years.

Mr Cowdery has been involved in a number of activities concerned with legal and human rights issues beyond Australia. He is Co-Chairman of the Human Rights Institute of the International Bar Association. He has been actively involved in LAWASIA, the Australian Section of the International Commission of Jurists and Amnesty International. He is also the Human Rights Adviser to the Law Council of Australia.

In his professional life, Mr Cowdery was admitted to the New South Wales Bar in 1971. He acted as a Public Defender in Papua New Guinea between 1971 and 1975. He then practised at the Bar in Sydney and was appointed Director of Public Prosecutions for New South Wales in 1994.

As President of the International Association of Prosecutors he will be the convenor of the Sixth Annual Conference of that body to be held in Sydney in September 2001.