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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GMIC Welcomes New Directors

PORTLAND, OR – The trend toward global and industry-wide adoption of sustainable meeting practices is represented in the new slate of Directors welcomed to the Board of the Green Meeting Industry Council.

“We are building our Board to show not only the global nature of our industry, but also how diverse we are as professionals,” states GMIC Board President Amy Spatrisano, CMP. “We are thrilled to have representation from independent and association planners, government, exhibitions, destination marketers, accommodations and incentives from the United States, Canada and Europe.”

New to the Board for 2007 are:

- Guy Bigwood, Group CSR Director and General Manager Spain, MCI
- Lynne Forsman, Nautical Destinations
- Dale Hudson, Projects Manager, IMEX
- Jan Sneegas, General Assembly Manager, Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations
- Michelle White, Director, Environmental Affairs, Fairmont Hotels & Resorts

They join current Directors:

- Suzanne Burnes, Pollution Prevention Assistance Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources
- Kitty Ratcliffe, President, St. Louis Convention & Visitors Commission
- Amy Spatrisano, CMP, Principal, Meeting Strategies Worldwide
- Nancy Wilson, CMP, Principal, Meeting Strategies Worldwide

Key priorities for the Directors in 2007 will be ensuring implementation of the recommendations from the GMIC’S recently released report *The Future is Green: Charting a Sustainable Future for Meetings*, including the launch of the Green Meetings Speakers’ Series, development of a post secondary education program for green meetings and undertaking research into the environmental impact of meetings and planner attitudes and practices.

The GMIC was established to help the meeting industry to become more sustainable by increasing the environmental performance, social value and business impact of events and meetings. The GMIC provides education, community, recognition, control, research and policy to green meeting professionals and is the definitive source of knowledge and expertise about sustainability in the industry. For further information please visit www.greenmeetings.info.

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