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Directorate of Communication

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International Istanbul Film Festival: presentation of the Council of Europe Film Award (FACE)

Date: 17 April 2010, 8 p.m.

Place: "Lütfi Kırdar Kongre ve Sergi Sarayı", Harbiye, İstanbul

Organiser: Council of Europe, in the framework of the Istanbul Film Festival

Description: Presentation by Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, Deputy Secretary General, of the 4th Council of Europe Film Award (FACE) during the closing ceremony of the 29th International Istanbul Film Festival.

FACE is an award presented each year, during the Istanbul Festival, to a film director who has particularly raised public awareness of human rights issues, thereby promoting greater understanding of their importance. The winner receives a bronze sculpture and a cash prize of 10 000 euros, jointly awarded with Eurimages, the Council of Europe fund for the co-production, distribution and exhibition of European cinematographic works.

On the previous day, **Friday 16 April**, the Council of Europe is to hold a **workshop on human rights in cinema**, which will also be part of the festival. After film extracts have been shown (*Stories on Human Rights*), the members of the FACE jury (*) will hold a discussion amongst themselves and with the audience, comprising academics, journalists, arts and film students, etc, about the role of the cinema in raising public awareness of human rights issues. Also open to the public, the workshop will be led by Alin Taşçıyan, a journalist and film critic, who is vice-president of <u>FIPRESCI</u>, the International Federation of Film Critics (**16 April, 4.30 p.m., Akbank-Sanat, İstiklal caddesi, Istanbul)**.

For more information and the films competing for the award

Press contacts:

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(*) Members of the 2010 FACE jury:

Marco Bechis, film director, 2009 FACE winner for "Birdwatchers";

Marja Ruotanen, Director of Co-operation - Directorate General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs, Council of Europe;

Roberto Olla, Executive Director of Eurimages, Council of Europe;

Sırrı Süreyya Önder, film director.