

## **Irma ARGÜELLO**

Ms. Irma Argüello is committed to public service as Founder and Chair of the NPSGlobal (Nonproliferation for Global Security) Foundation, a private and non-profit initiative. The organization is focused on helping reduce risks derived from the proliferation and use of weapons of mass destruction, and building up adequate and opportune responses, in order to increase the global security. Its primary field of action is the Spanish and Portuguese speaking world.

She developed a managerial career at international organizations such as ExxonMobil Corporation and the Latin American Petrochemical Association. At ExxonMobil she held several local and international managerial positions for eleven years. After she left the company, she became a consultant, specialized in strategies formulation and implementation, new projects, and management of change.

Ms. Argüello pursued Defense and Security studies (master level) at the Escuela de Defensa Nacional, Argentina. Her education also includes a Master degree in Business Administration from IDEA/ Wharton School, and a Licenciatura (master level) in Physics Sciences from the Universidad de Buenos Aires, and worked at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, España. After her graduation, she worked for three years as a scientist at the LPR Project –CNEA, the Argentine reprocessing plant project located in Ezeiza, where she specialized in nuclear safety, design and calculus.

As a part of her academic activities, she is currently developing a brand new *regional postgraduate course on disarmament and nonproliferation*, to be launched in 2009. For several years she has been teaching an eight-week seminar on the matter, open to the public. Her former teaching experience also includes topics like Modern Physics and Management, at several universities and institutes.

She is usually appointed to lecture different audiences and wrote many articles, papers and op-eds related to her fields of expertise and, specifically to disarmament and nonproliferation. One of the more recent has been “A World Free of Nuclear Weapons”, in Spanish, for the Diario La Nación, Buenos Aires, published in February 2008.