

## **Press release**

Warsaw, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2008

### **Warsaw's business and diplomatic elite bids farewell to leaving General Manager of the InterContinental Warszawa**

On Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February the InterContinental Warszawa was hosting Warsaw's business and diplomatic elite, including most Managing Directors of all major international and Polish companies, as well as the Austrian and U.S. Ambassadors, who gathered there for a grandiose party in order to bid farewell to Karl Hala, former General Manager of the InterContinental Warszawa.

Karl Hala has been managing the InterContinental Warszawa since January 2005 and is now leaving Warsaw in order to take over not only the management of the InterContinental Nairobi in Kenya, but also the regional management function for the whole Africa region.

The party, bringing together Karl Hala's close friends and business partners as well as many colleagues, created the perfect setting to introduce to the guests the hotel's new General Manager, Christian Henkemeier, who rejoins the InterContinental Hotels Group.

Mr. Henkemeier started his career at IHG in 1981 at the InterContinental Berlin, later moving to London. A native German, his assignments brought him to destinations such as Paris, Düsseldorf, Beijing and Cologne, where he led Hilton Cologne as opening GM and from 2004 to his new assignment in Warsaw as GM at the Regal Shanghai East Asia Hotel in China. With great excitement Mr. Henkemeier is coming to Poland, and is looking very much forward to his new challenge in its thriving capital, Warsaw.

The decoration theme of the party was clearly inspired by Karl Hala's new destination, and the exclusive and artful buffet successfully combined the African and Austrian cuisine, a culinary experience with quite some new and surprising tastes from the African side, prepared by the InterContinental Executive Chef, Eric Fettke, from South Africa.