



INTERNATIONAL  
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ALLIANCE

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## Director-General International Co-operative Alliance



### **Charles Gould (United States of America)**

Prior to his appointment as Director-General in September 2010, Charles Gould served as Chief Executive Officer of Volunteers of America, a health care, housing and human services organisation in the United States. Headquartered in Washington D.C., he provided leadership to its 16,000 staff and oversaw an annual budget of USD 1 billion. His advocacy of collaborative ventures and technology saw the organisation's profile and resources increase considerably. Under his tenure Volunteers of America was the largest non-profit provider of affordable housing in the United States. In each of the last five years of his administration he was recognised as one of the fifty most influential leaders in the United States non-profit sector. He served as a member of the board of the American Society of Association Executives, and of the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aged.

Before joining Volunteers of America, Mr. Gould practised as an attorney-at-law with Arnold & Porter and with Hogan & Hartson US law firms in Washington D.C. He has a Juris Doctor (JD) degree from the University of Minnesota Law School (USA), and a Master of Studies (MSt) in International Human Rights Law from Oxford University (United Kingdom).

Mr. Gould has spoken often on the issues of housing, long-term health care and human services. Recently, his article "The Right to Housing Recovery after Natural Disasters" was published in the *Harvard Human Rights Journal*.

His appointment to Director-General of the International Co-operative Alliance in Geneva, Switzerland brings his extensive business knowledge to an organisation which combines a rich, century-plus heritage, together with a business model that has never been more relevant than today. He believes fervently in the continuing validity of the Co-operative Principles and Values, and is committed to serving the International Co-operative Alliance's growing family of member organisations representing nearly one billion individuals, and promoting the worldwide co-operative movement to its merited position in the global economy.

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For information on his recent activities, see the ICA Director-General's web page at [www.ica.coop/directorgeneral/](http://www.ica.coop/directorgeneral/)