

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## 03.15.2017 AFP APPOINTMENTS

## ON THE PROPOSAL OF GLOBAL NEWS DIRECTOR MICHÈLE LÉRIDON, AFP CHAIRMAN EMMANUEL HOOG HAS NAMED MARIELLE EUDES AS PHOTO DIRECTOR, REPLACING FRANCIS KOHN. PHILIPPE ONILLON WILL BE THE NEW DIRECTOR FOR CAREERS AND DEVELOPMENT.

With a degree in Russian and Arabic from the Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales (INALCO) and another from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (IEPP), Marielle Eudes began her career at AFP in 1987 as a journalist in the economics department.

She was posted in Moscow in the early 1990s and spent the next 15 years covering the upheavals of the post-Soviet era. In 1995, Marielle, along with the whole Moscow, bureau received the Prix Albert Londres for coverage of the war in Chechnya.

Marielle returned to Paris in 2006, first as deputy to the director for careers and development, and then as photo director. She returns to this post after five years as director for careers and development.

During her time in that position she oversaw the merger of the human resources and managing editor's departments and then conducted negotiations with the human resources director on the company agreement signed on March 10. She will take up her new post on 15 May.

Philippe Onillon, director of the France region, has been appointed director for careers and development. Since joining AFP in 1989, Philippe has worked at the Lyon and London bureaux as well as in the multimedia development and was head of the economics department. After serving as deputy director of the Europe-Africa desk and then as deputy news director, he was appointed France region director in 2015.

Philippe will take up his new post on 1<sup>st</sup> April. Initially, he will continue to act as head of the France region.

Francis Kohn will be leaving the Agency at the end of June, after a long and rich career. Holder of a bachelor degree in communication at American University in Washington and a master degree in literature, Francis joined AFP in 1979. He worked at the regional headquarters in Washington and then headed the New York bureau before returning to Paris to work at the international service. He served as Central America Director based in San José, France chief editor and editor in chief for North America in Washington. He headed operations in Scandinavia as Stockholm bureau chief and served as Latin America Regional director until he was named photo director in 2012. In 2016 he was chairman of the World Press Photo Awards jury.

## About AFP:

AFP is a global news agency delivering fast, accurate, in-depth coverage of the events shaping our world from conflicts to politics, sports, entertainment and the latest breakthroughs in health, science and technology. With 2,300 staff spread across almost every country, AFP covers the world 24 hours a day in six languages. AFP delivers the news in video, text, photos, multimedia and graphics to a wide range of customers including newspapers and magazines, radio and TV channels, web sites and portals, mobile operators, corporate clients as well as public institutions.

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