

# **Maria Elena Chávez Hertig**

Maria Elena Chávez Hertig, a Canadian and Chilean national, is Coordinator of the International Year of Cooperatives / Senior Technical Specialist with the Cooperative Branch of the International Labour Office (ILO) in Geneva, Switzerland.

She has 28 years of experience working with cooperatives on a wide number of issues.

Ms. Chavez Hertig joined the ILO in April 2001 having previously worked as International Cooperative Alliance (ICA), the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives (COPAC) and World Council of Credit Unions (WOCCU).

She holds Bachelor of Arts Degrees from Smith College (USA) in Political Science (international relations) and French Studies, and Graduate Certificates from the Institut Universitaire de Hautes Etudes Internationale (Switzerland) and the Institut des Hautes Etudes en Administration Publique (Switzerland).