Roberto Newell García

Roberto. Newell G. is Vice President and Senior Fellow of the Instituto Mexicano para la Competitividad, A.C., (IMCO), a privately sponsored, independent think-thank located in Mexico City, whose mandate is to analyze and propose policies that will enhance Mexico's competitiveness in the global economy. Newell was the founding director of IMCO. During his tenure as CEO, the Institute became one of the leading exponents of the need for a second wave of reforms to accelerate Mexico's economic development.

During 2003, he served as Deputy Secretary for Agribusiness in Mexico’s federal government, having previously served in the same administration as the CEO of the Fideicomiso de las Empresas Expropiadas del Sector Azucarero, a holding company that operated the 27 sugar mills that were taken over by Mexico’s government as part of a turn-around program for these failed sugar mills.

Between 1984 and 2001, Mr. Newell worked for McKinsey & Co., Inc., the international consulting firm. He retired as a Director (senior partner) of the Firm. During his years as a consultant, he served clients throughout Latin America, the Caribbean and the United States. His clients included companies in the financial and telecommunications sectors, but Newell also served several national governments on issues of deregulation, privatization and financial sector crisis. In this context, he became one the Firm's expert leaders on the economic and regulatory issues of regulated companies in telecoms, electricity, banking, capital markets and petroleum.

Mr. Newell is the author of two books and dozens of articles, published in journals and international professional publications. He writes a weekly column in Reforma, Mexico’s leading newspaper.

Mr. Newell is Chairman of the Board of Grupo Financiero Finterra, S.A. He also serves on the Boards of Smurfit-Kappa, Wal-Mart de México, Centro Médico ABC, Corporación Mexicana de Inversiones de Capital (Fondo de Fondos) and Grupo Financiero Principal. He was a Public Policy Scholar at the Mexico Institute of the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, D.C. during Spring, 2011.

Mr. Newell has a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Texas at Austin (1979), and a B.A. (1969) and M.A. (1973) from the Universidad de las Américas in Mexico. He is married to Tamara Locke, an Episcopal priest.