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James Cockayne Appointed as Head of UN University Office at the United Nations, New York

19 July 2013, New York — The United Nations University (UNU) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. James Cockayne of Australia as Head of the UNU Office at the United Nations in New York. Mr. Cockayne will assume his post in early September 2013.

Prior to joining UNU, Mr. Cockayne spent a decade working to improve evidence-based policymaking through interaction between international organizations, states and the research community.

Most recently, Mr. Cockayne served as Co-Director of the Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation, leading their work in New York and Africa.

Earlier, Mr. Cockayne spent four years with the International Peace Institute working with UN officials, academic experts and governments to develop innovative recommendations on climate change, poverty and underdevelopment, biosecurity, and peace and security.

"I congratulate James and look forward to working with him to strengthen the United Nations University's usefulness and responsiveness to high-level UN policy discussions in New York and beyond", said Dr. David Malone, Rector of the United Nations University.

"James brings to the post a track record of commitment both to fostering and participating in world-class research, and to harnessing that research to deliver more effective intergovernmentalism", Dr. Malone noted. "He will be a key member of my team as we work with the network of UNU institutes around the world to deliver valuable research to the UN system in the years ahead."

"I am excited to have this unique opportunity to help bring cutting-edge research on human survival, security, development and welfare to the United Nations", noted Mr. Cockayne. "Many of the challenges humanity is facing require a global response, and the United Nations – and its University – are uniquely positioned to help generate those responses."

A graduate of New York University and the University of Sydney, Mr. Cockayne has an extensive publication record. He has produced two books, over fifty peer reviewed book chapters and journal articles, and more than twenty policy papers on international law, human rights, peace operations, terrorism, organized crime and private security companies. Mr. Cockayne has been a lecturer at Columbia University, and serves on the editorial committees of the *Journal of International Criminal Justice* and the *Journal of International Humanitarian Legal Studies*.

Before moving to New York, Mr. Cockayne was Principal Legal Officer in the Transnational Crime and Extradition Units in the Australian Attorney-General's Department.

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The United Nations University, established in 1975, is a global research and teaching organization with active institutes and programmes in 12 countries worldwide. The overarching goal of UNU is to contribute to global sustainable development that will enable present generations to live a decent life in peace, freedom, safety and good health, without compromising the ability of future generations to do the same.

In carrying out its work as the academic arm of the United Nations system, UNU focuses on research, teaching and capacity building, as well as delivering advisory services as a think tank. UNU maintains close cooperative relationships with other United Nations system organizations (agencies, programmes, commissions, funds and convention secretariats) as well as with leading universities and research institutions all over the world.

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