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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **FilmAid International Names Andrew Morton as Interim Executive Director**

New York, NY, June 28, 2007 – The Board of Directors of FilmAid International are pleased to announce the appointment of Andrew Morton as Interim Executive Director. He replaces Elizabeth Silkes who stepped down on June 22nd.

Since 2001, Mr. Morton has been actively involved with FilmAid International, formerly serving as pro bono legal counsel and as a member of the Board of Directors.

Previously, Mr. Morton was a government relations attorney with the Washington D.C. office of Latham & Watkins LLP. While at Latham, he helped launch a firm-wide effort titled the “Child Refugee Project,” advocating alien child custody reform legislation in Congress, and providing pro bono legal representation to juveniles detained by the Department of Homeland Security.

A frequent speaker on human rights and immigration/refugee law, Mr. Morton has testified as an expert witness before the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives, and he appears regularly in national media outlets such as ABC News, CNN, the *Washington Post* and the *New York Times*. For his extensive advocacy on behalf of refugees and asylum-seekers, the D.C. Bar Association honored Mr. Morton as “Pro Bono Lawyer of the Year” in 2002, and in 2006, he received the “Outstanding Pro Bono Service Award” from the Legal Aid Society.

“Andrew’s leadership will be instrumental during this exciting time as we plan for FilmAid’s future. We are confident that Andrew is the right person to help navigate FilmAid through this transition.” said Board Co-Chair and Founder Caroline Baron. “His experience in refugee advocacy and intimate knowledge of the organization are great assets, as are his long-standing relationships with donors, staff and volunteers.”

The executive transition committee, comprised of members of the Board and staff, will continue conducting a search for a permanent Executive Director.

Mr. Morton graduated with academic distinction from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. He also attended the University of Maryland, earning a Master of Public Policy from the School of Public Affairs, with a concentration in Economic Policy and International Human Rights, and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics.

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