

GSK to Name Jonathan Symonds as New CFO



Jonathan Symonds CBE, former CFO of AstraZeneca and Novartis has been appointed to chairman at GlaxoSmithKline in the wake of the pharmaceutical company's break-up.

Symonds is currently overseeing operations at HSBC, and will replace Sir Philip Hampton, non-executive chairman at GlaxoSmithKline for the past four years.

Symonds has previously taken on the role as financial director at both Novartis; 2009 to 2013; and AstraZeneca; 1997 to 2007. Mr Symonds' appointment is due to be announced this week, however, it is likely to be delayed by several weeks owing to approval from the UK banking regulator, due to his current role at HSBC.

As GSK is preparing its demerge, Symonds is the most attractive candidate for the role considering his past experience in transformative deals.

GSK will be entering into a joint venture with Pfizer following the break-up of its consumer division. The rest of the company will have its own listing as a pharma and vaccines company.

Source: <u>Financial Times</u> Image Credit: <u>HSBC</u>

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