

World Economic Forum appoints new head for China

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Fon Mathuros, Director, Media, Communications Department Tel.: +41 (0)79 201 0211; fmathuro@weforum.org

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- Olivier Schwab has been appointed as Executive Director for the World Economic Forum China
- The World Economic Forum has maintained a strong relationship with China since 1979
- The Beijing Representative Office was established in 2006 as a third centre for Forum activities
- For more information about the World Economic Forum: <http://www.weforum.org>

Geneva, Switzerland 19 October 2011 – Olivier Schwab has been appointed as the new Executive Director, World Economic Forum China. He will take up this position effective 1 November 2011, succeeding Christophe Weber. Weber will be leaving the Forum after having served in Geneva in various roles. His three years in Beijing have helped to establish a firm base for the Forum's presence.

On behalf of the Managing Board, Børge Brende said: "Olivier Schwab has proved himself in his leadership of the Technology Pioneer Community. His appointment further strengthens the World Economic Forum's representation in China. It underlines the Forum's commitment to developing its presence globally and extending it substantially."

Olivier Schwab said: "I am delighted to be taking up this role. I look forward to building on the Forum's strong position in China and extending it further in the years ahead. There are few more exciting places to be in the world right now than China. I particularly look forward to the opportunity to work closely with the excellent team that we have in Beijing."

The Beijing Representative Office was established in 2006 to provide a third centre for Forum activities, in addition to Geneva and New York. It supports work across all areas but particularly the Forum's community of Global Growth Companies. China is the home of the Forum's "Summer Davos", its Annual Meeting highlighting innovation, particularly in the areas of science and technology.

About Olivier Schwab:

Education: 1997, MSc Civil Engineering, EPFL; 1999, MSc Civil and Environmental Engineering, MIT. Career: 1999-2002 Industry to Industry, Inc., Business Development Manager, Boston and San Francisco. 2002-03 Mercer Management Consulting, Consultant, Zurich. 2003 Club Airways, airline charter services, Co-Founder, Geneva. 2003-09 Schindler, Executive Assistant to the President, and management roles. 2010, World Economic Forum, Director and Head, Technology Pioneers.

Olivier is married with two children.

Notes to Editors

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World Economic Forum, 91-93 route de la Capite, CH-1223 Cologny/Geneva
Tel. +41 (0)22 869 1212, Fax +41 (0)22 786 2744, <http://www.weforum.org>