



16th September 2010

AFME appoints Simon Lewis as chief executive

The Association for Financial Markets in Europe (AFME) has appointed Simon Lewis as chief executive.

Mr Lewis was Director of Communications at 10 Downing Street and the Prime Minister's Official Spokesman from June 2009 until May of this year. Following the General Election he joined UK Trade and Investment (UKTI) as strategic communications adviser. Previously, he had been group corporate affairs director at Vodafone since 2004.

Between 1996 and 2004 Mr Lewis held senior roles at Centrica, including managing director for Europe and group director of communications and public policy. From 1998 to 2000, he was seconded to Buckingham Palace to serve as the first Communications Secretary to The Queen.

Before joining Centrica, Mr Lewis was director of corporate affairs at NatWest Group and head of public relations at S.G. Warburg Group. He studied at Oxford University and at the University of California at Berkeley, as a Fulbright Scholar.

He was President of the Chartered Institute of Public Relations in 1997 and, in 2004, President of Eurogas, the Brussels-based trade association representing European energy companies. He has also been Chairman of the Fulbright Commission.

Mark Austen, AFME's head of markets policy, who has been serving as acting chief executive, has been appointed chief operating officer.

Gaël de Boissard, AFME's chair and head of global securities at Credit Suisse, commented:

"Simon brings to AFME a unique blend of political insight, experience of operating in highly regulated industries and communications expertise. He will be an excellent and influential ambassador for the participants in the European financial markets and an inspiring leader for the Association."

Simon Lewis commented:

"I am delighted to be joining AFME at such a critical time for the financial sector. This is an exciting opportunity for me to lead the only organisation representing the full spectrum of European financial institutions and which speaks from a position of authority and tremendous knowledge of the markets and how they work. By applying my experience of communications, advocacy and public policy I can help drive the agenda of AFME in its important work with legislators, regulators and other stakeholder groups.

"I am very much looking forward to working with the board and colleagues in AFME as we work towards achieving a more efficient and orderly financial system."

Mr Lewis will take up his position on October 1.



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Notes:

1. **AFME** (Association for Financial Markets in Europe) promotes fair, orderly, and efficient European wholesale capital markets and provides leadership in advancing the interests of all market participants. AFME represents a broad array of European and global participants in the wholesale financial markets. Its members comprise pan-EU and global banks as well as key regional banks, brokers, law firms, investors and other financial market participants. AFME participates in a global alliance with the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA) in the US, and the Asia Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association through the GFMA (Global Financial Markets Association). AFME is listed on the EU Register of Interest Representatives, registration number 65110063986-76.
2. AFME's Board comprises 21 senior representatives of major financial institutions operating in Europe. It is chaired by Gael de Boissard, head of global securities at Credit Suisse. The deputy chair is Benoit de Vitry, head of global markets trading, Europe and head of commodities and emerging markets at Barclays Capital.

For more information please visit the AFME website, www.AFME.eu