



Rona Fairhead (The Baroness Fairhead CBE)

Current Positions

Rona Fairhead (The Baroness Fairhead CBE) is currently a Non-Executive Director and Member of the Finance and Audit Committee of Oracle Corporation and a Member of the House of Lords.

Background Information

Baroness Fairhead began her executive career at Bain & Co in 1983, before moving to BAE Systems in 1990. She joined Bombardier Inc in 1991, firstly as Executive Vice-President, Strategy and Communications for Short Brothers; and then as General Manager for Bombardier Aerospace Services.

She joined Imperial Chemical Industries plc in 1996 where she held various positions, including as Director, Planning and Acquisitions; Executive Vice-President, Planning and Communications; and then as Executive Vice-President, Strategy and Group Financial Control from 1998.

In 2001 Baroness Fairhead joined Pearson plc to become Group Finance Director. She became Chairman and CEO of the Financial Times Group and Pearson Professional Education in 2006 – a position held until 2013.

She became the first female Chairman of the British Broadcasting Company (BBC) in 2014. After stepping down from the BBC, she was invited by the UK Prime Minister to become the UK Government's Trade and Export Minister, a role held until 2019.

Her non-executive director roles have included HSBC Holdings plc (2004-2016) where she chaired the Risk and Audit Committees; the UK's Government's Cabinet Office (where she chaired the Cabinet Office Audit and Risk Committees); and PepsiCo Inc.

Baroness Fairhead has held non-executive chairman roles with FTSE, Interactive Data Corporation, the Financial Times Group, HSBC Bank North America and the BBC.

Other Notable Interests

Baroness Fairhead was awarded the CBE for Services to Industry in 2012, appointed a Life Peer in 2017 and has honorary doctorates from Queen's University Belfast and Teesside University.

The Baroness Fairhead CBE is based in London.