

# Press Release

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For further details contact: Lopa Patel T: 07505 462 442

# Diversity UK welcomes Oliver Rothschild as Patron

London, 10th April 2013: Newly formed think tank Diversity UK is pleased to welcome corporate strategist Oliver Rothschild as its patron. Mr Rothschild is active within a range of industries and holds a diverse portfolio of business interests. Currently Chairman of Oliver Rothschild Corporate Advisors, he is also active in other, non-commercial spheres, having previously been elected Chairman of UNICEF (Appeals Committee). In the charitable Sector, Oliver Rothschild currently holds the post of President of the trading arm of ACEVO, the leading association of voluntary and charitable Chief Executive Officers, and is also Chairman of the Sustainable Business Forum.

Chair of Diversity UK, Dilip Joshi MBE said "we are delighted to be guided by Oliver whose breadth of board-level experience in the UK, Europe and elsewhere will be invaluable in helping shape our vision." Diversity UK is a think tank to research, advocate and promote new ideas for improving diversity and inclusion in Britain. It is a not-for-profit, collaborative organisation that works with a wide range of partners, bodies and key opinion formers to engage in a healthy debate about issues of age, race, gender, sexual orientation and disability discrimination.

Current research shows that ethnic minorities are underrepresented in the workplace. Although ethnic minorities make up 12% of the working-age population, only 1 in 16 of current FTSE 100 board members is from a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) background.

Even in the public arena, only 0.8% of local councillors in England are Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic; only 4.1% of MPs are Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (as of 2010) and only 6.9% of public appointments are held by BAME individuals. "Clearly there is still some way to go before there is a representative number of ethnic minorities in public appointments, politics or the corporate world commensurate with their numbers in the general population" said Lopa Patel, Founder & CEO of Diversity UK. The think tank aims to deliver its objectives by initially focusing on three research areas - Public Appointments Monitoring, Diversity in Public Appointments Research and Diversity Media Monitoring - and hosting roundtable & networking events.

### **Notes for Editors:**

### About Diversity UK

Diversity UK is a think tank to research, advocate and promote new ideas for improving diversity and inclusion in Britain. It is a not-for-profit, collaborative organisation that works with a wide range of partners, bodies and key opinion formers to engage in a healthy debate about issues of age, race, gender, sexual orientation and disability discrimination. Diversity UK is an evidence-based initiative that seeks to influence policy, enhance civic engagement and improve the perception of the minority ethnic community in Britain.

Visit www.diversityuk.org for further information



# About Oliver Rothschild Chairman of Oliver Rothschild Corporate Advisors

Oliver Rothschild is a corporate strategist active within a range of industries and holds a diverse portfolio of business interests. Currently Chairman of Oliver Rothschild Corporate Advisors, he is also active in other, non-commercial spheres, having previously been elected Chairman of UNICEF (Appeals Committee). In the charitable Sector, Oliver Rothschild currently holds the post of President of the trading arm of ACEVO, the leading association of voluntary and charitable Chief Executive Officers, and is also Chairman of the Sustainable Business Forum.

Oliver Rothschild began his career consulting in the hotel, restaurant and leisure industries. As Founder and Principal of Buchler Rothschild, he helped build the firm's investment portfolio covering real estate, IT, entertainment, media, PR, the fine arts and antiques. He was former Chairman of a travel PLC, Senior Vice President of American General Investments and Director of an Auction House. Following Buchler Rothschild, Oliver Rothschild Corporate Advisors was founded, a corporate strategy and corporate governance advisory firm.

Amongst a range of other Chairmanships across a range of industries including sustainable energy, corporate strategy, cloud computing, media and the arts, some of his appointments include:

- ? President of ACEVO Solutions
- ? Chairman of GILD International
- ? Honorary Vice-President of Geneva Group International
- ? Non-Executive Director of Tergo Power
- ? Chairman of the Advisory Board Ultimate Media Fund
- ? Chairman of Rockstar Group
- ? Chairman of Monolith Advertising

Oliver Rothschild has held Board level positions with the Carbon Advice Group. He is also the Senior Entrepreneur Fellow of the University of Essex and is also involved with Sophia Business Angels Venture Academy. His media involvement includes presenting programmes for the BBC and Channel 4 and co-production of a BBC series. He is also an Ambassador for the Monaco International Film Festival.