

LARRY HIRST CBE



Until 2010, Larry Hirst was chairman of IBM Europe, Middle East and Africa. He represented IBM to the European Commission, NATO and the EDA on issues of international public policy and business regulation. He was responsible for the company's corporate citizenship, environmental affairs, intellectual property, standards development and university relations activities across the region.

Previous roles in his 33 year career included the leadership of IBM's business in the UK, Ireland, Netherlands and South Africa (2002-8). Vice President of IBM's Financial Services Sector in EMEA (1994-2001). Chairman of IBM Netherlands 2002-10.

He has been Chairman of the Transition to Teaching Committee, reporting to the Secretary of State for Education, a Commissioner for the Governments Employment and Skills Council. He was the Chairman of the UK Trade and Investment Executive Board, reporting to the Minister for Trade. He was the Chairman of e-skills the Sector Skills Council from 2003-10. He was a Member of the British Airways International Advisory Board 2012-16 and was a non-exec director and Chair of the Remuneration Committee of ARM Holdings Plc 2011-16. Until 2018 he was the Senior Independent Director of MITIE Group plc. He is an adjunct Professor and was the Chairman of the Data Sciences Institute at Imperial College 2014-18.

He was an Advisor to the Presidential Advisory Council on Information Society and Development (PIAC) in South Africa. In December 2009, he was announced as a private sector Business Ambassador by the UK Prime Minister, a role created to promote UK excellence.

He is an ambassador to the Everywoman company and Black British Business, launched the UK HeForShe campaign, is a Government Advocate for Men as Agents of change and is on the 30% Club technology Board. He is a member of the Government Cyber Research Council.