

**Media Release
26 June 2018**



Singapore Confers Honorary Citizen Award on Sir Andrew Witty

1. Singapore today honoured Sir Andrew Witty, former Chief Executive Officer of GlaxoSmithKline plc (GSK), with the Honorary Citizen Award for his significant contributions to Singapore's economic development, and the growth of Singapore's Biomedical Sciences industry cluster.
2. The Honorary Citizen Award is the highest form of national recognition for friends of Singapore who have rendered extensive and valuable services to our country and our people, or made a significant impact in areas such as business, science and technology, health, or security, among others.
3. President Halimah Yacob conferred the Award on Sir Andrew today, at a ceremony held at the Istana. Also in attendance were Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for Economic and Social Policies, and His Excellency Scott Wightman, British High Commissioner to Singapore.

Sir Andrew Witty's Contributions

4. Sir Andrew was based in Singapore from 1999 to 2003, as GSK's Senior Vice President for Asia Pacific. During his stint, GSK grew its regional office into a fully integrated regional headquarters, overseeing 14 affiliated companies in the Asia-Pacific region from Singapore.
5. When Sir Andrew was appointed CEO of GSK in 2009, he established a joint 10-year roadmap with the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB) to identify key investments that would address both the company's strategic priorities, as well as Singapore's vision to be a leading Biomedical Sciences hub. The roadmap led to numerous important investments in manufacturing, technology, manpower and capability development in Singapore.
6. As part of the roadmap, Sir Andrew also championed the establishment of a \$50 million GSK-EDB endowment fund, to support innovation and research in the areas of green and sustainable manufacturing, as well as healthcare policy. In particular, Singapore became the choice location for incubating and industrialising GSK's portfolio of new manufacturing

technologies to transform how medicines are produced. This has also helped Singapore develop regional thought leadership in regulatory policies for drug approvals.

7. In addition, Sir Andrew was instrumental in GSK's decision to expand and extend its regional headquarters in Singapore into one of the company's three global business hubs. Today, GSK's cumulative investments in Singapore have exceeded \$2.5 billion, and its workforce has doubled over the last 10 years to more than 1,700 employees, making GSK the largest employer in Singapore's Pharmaceutical industry.
8. Aside from his contributions to Singapore's Biomedical Sciences industry cluster, Sir Andrew has been a member of EDB's International Advisory Council since 2011. With his extensive business and international experience, and understanding of Singapore, he has added depth to the Council's discussions, and helped shape Singapore's future economic strategies.
9. On being conferred the Award, Sir Andrew said: "I am delighted and humbled to accept the Honorary Citizen Award today. Living and working in and with Singapore has been one of my most rewarding experiences, and I have been delighted to see the biomedical sector expand so much over the last 20 years. My former colleagues at GSK have played a key role as part of a long tradition of commitment to this fine country."
10. Dr Beh Swan Gin, Chairman, EDB, said: "Singapore's Biomedical Sciences industry cluster, and GSK in Singapore, have grown hand-in-hand through the decades. Sir Andrew was a key driving force for this growth throughout his time in GSK, and the strong partnership between Singapore and GSK continues to this day."

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Annex A: About the Honorary Citizen Award
Annex B: Biography of Sir Andrew Witty

About the Singapore Economic Development Board

The Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB), a government agency under the Ministry of Trade and Industry, is responsible for strategies that enhance Singapore's position as a global centre for business, innovation, and talent. We undertake investment promotion and industry development, and work with international businesses, both foreign and local, by providing information, connection to partners and access to government incentives for their investments. Our mission is to create sustainable economic growth, with vibrant business and good job opportunities for Singapore.

For more information on EDB, please visit www.edb.gov.sg.

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