

Bios of Speaker



Simone Thomsen

PhRMA Japan-Based Executive Committee (JBEC) Chair

Simone Thomsen joined Eli Lilly & Company in 2002 and was appointed President and Representative Director for Eli Lilly Japan effective September 2019. After having significantly upgraded the organizational set-up, performance and strategy, she was further promoted in 2021 to Group Vice President of Eli Lilly and Company. Since 2019, Simone holds the position of ACCJ Kansai Governor. In January 2023, she assumed Chair of the Japan-Based Executive Committee (JBEC) in the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA), after working as Vice Chair of the JBEC for two years from January 2021.

Prior to this, Simone held several positions within Eli Lilly & Co. She began her career with Lilly in Germany as the Department Head of New Product Planning followed by Head of sales for the countries Germany, Austria and Switzerland. In 2005, she moved to the corporate headquarters of Eli Lilly & Co. in Indianapolis (USA) and she took on the post of International Marketing Leader Cardiovascular. This put her in charge of global product planning for a new product in the field of cardiology. In 2008, she took over as Managing Director of Lilly Austria in Vienna before in 2011 she moved with her family to Japan heading up the marketing department of Lilly Japan as Senior Director Marketing and CMO. In 2014, she was promoted to VP and General Manager of the German Hub which comprises of Lilly Germany, Austria and Switzerland. She was also a Board member of the VFA, VCI Hesse and AmCham. In 2018, she had taken over the role of VP Marketing of Lilly's International Business Unit being based out of Indianapolis, USA.

Simone was born in Germany and completed her studies in business administration and the Japanese studies in 1997, obtaining degrees in Ludwigshafen am Rhein (Germany) and Kumamoto (Japan). In 2001, she obtained a MBA from the NIMBAS Management Institute in Utrecht (Netherlands) as well as from its partner university in Bradford (UK).