

FEIKE SIJBESMA

Major Career Roles

Honorary Chair and former CEO, Royal DSM
Supervisory Board Chair, Royal Philips
Co-Chair, Global Centre Climate Adaptation
Board of Trustees, World Economic Forum
Senior Adviser, Africa Improved Foods and Ocean Cleanup
Independent Non-Executive Director, Unilever

Other Career Highlights

Corona Envoy, the Netherlands
Board member, Dutch Growth Fund
Board member, Netherlands Cancer Institute and Hospital
Board member, Netherlands Genomics Initiative
Chair, EuropBio
Board member, European Chemical Industry Council
Board member, Utrecht University
Board member, Dutch Innovation Platform

Feike Sijbesma was CEO & Chair of Royal DSM (2007-2020), overseeing a transformation from a bulk-chemicals firm to a globally respected nutrition, health, and materials sciences innovator. During his 13-year tenure, he executed 25 major acquisitions, divested traditional petrochemical businesses, and initiated partnerships with the UN World Food Programme.

Feike is currently Chair of the Supervisory Board of Royal Philips (since 2021) and Honorary Chair of Royal DSM (since 2020). He co-chairs the Global Centre on Adaptation (with Ban Ki-moon), is a Member of the World Economic Forum Board of Trustees, Co-Chair of the CEO Climate Leaders Alliance, and co-leads the Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition for the World Bank. In addition, he chairs Africa Improved Foods, and guides The Ocean Cleanup, reflecting a leadership footprint that spans corporate governance, sustainability, nutrition, and global systems resilience.

In early 2020, he acted as Special Envoy for the COVID-19 Response for the Dutch government, accelerating testing and policy coordination.

He brings deep cross-sector expertise in:

• Sustainable business transformation – leading DSM's pivot to purpose-led growth and forging partnerships to tackle malnutrition and climate resilience.

• Board governance & global industry leadership – supervising complex listed companies (Philips, DSM, Unilever) with a focus on ESG, digital resilience, and innovation.

• Climate & nutrition diplomacy – steering multilateral coalitions on carbon pricing, adaptation, and food security via WEF, World Bank, and UN initiatives.

• Science-driven strategy & stakeholder mobilisation – Integrating biology, materials science, and partnerships into value creation at scale.

Educated in molecular biology (Utrecht University) and holding an MBA from Erasmus University, Rotterdam, Feike was named UN Humanitarian of the Year (2010), selected among Fortune's 50 greatest leaders (2018), and listed by the Harvard Business Review as one of the world's top 100 CEOs (2019). He holds honorary doctorates and national honours for his lifelong service to business and society.

Feike's career exemplifies the power of purposeful leadership: transforming traditional industries through science, governance, and global stewardship. He remains a sought-after mentor for executives seeking to align commercial success with societal impact.