HSBC HOLDINGS PLC Form 6-K November 20, 2008

FORM 6-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Private Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a - 16 or 15d - 16 of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the month of November, 2008

HSBC Holdings plc

42nd Floor, 8 Canada Square, London E14 5HQ, England

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F).

Form 20-F X Form 40-F

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934).

Yes..... No X

(If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-.............).

20

November 2008

Stuart Gulliver (49), executive Director of HSBC Holdings plc and Chief Executive Global Banking and Markets

and G

lobal Asset Management , has been appointed a Director and

with effect from 1 January 2009

non-executive Chairman of HSBC France

, with Peter Boyles continuing in his capacity as Chief Executive Officer of the bank . The appointment is subject to regulatory approval in France Mr Gulliver succeeds Charles-Henri Filippi who, after overseeing the successful integration and re-branding of HSBC's operations in F r nc is leaving HSBC to establish Alfina, an independent financial services business focussed on asset allocation and restructuring in the context of the current market environment. He is also join ing CVC Capital Partners as senior advisor for France Charles-Henri Filippi said "After more than 20 years with the bank, including eight years as part of the HSBC Group, I would like to express my gratitude to colleagues, past and present, in France and elsewhere, for the superb job they have done in making CCF so successful, and in ensuring its smooth integration into the HSBC Group, so that our bank now has a strong and well-defined presence in the French market. I wish HSBC and our staff every success in their future endeavour s."

Commenting on Charles-Henri Filippi's departure

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Group Chairman, Stephen Green said "Charles-Henri has made a tremendous contribution to HSBC's strong positioning in

France

, reflecting our focus on international connectivity in developed markets. We have benefited greatly from his experience both in the French banking ma

rket and in Corporate Banking.

He played a key role in the successful integration of CCF into the Group following the acquisition in 2000, and we wish him well for the future."

The Board of HSBC France would also like to thank Charles-Henri Filippi for his dedicated service, latterly as Chairman of the company.

Mr Gulliver, an executive Director of HSBC Holdings plc since May 2008, joined HSBC in 1980. He is

a Director of HSBC Bank plc, HSBC North America Holdings Inc, The Hongkong and Shang hai Banking Corporation Limited

and

HSBC Priva

te Banking Holdings (Suisse) SA. He is also Deputy Chairman and member of the Supervisory Board of HSBC Trinkaus & Burkhardt AG.

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Notes to editors:

1.

HSBC in

France

HSBC France, formerly CCF founded in 1894, became a subsidiary of the HSBC Group in 2000 and changed its name to HSBC France in November 2005. HSBC France head office is in

Paris

. With about 370 points of sale in

France

and over 11,700 employees, HSBC France is a universal bank serving both personal and business customers.

2.

The Board of Directors of HSBC Holdings plc as at the date of this announcement are:

S K Green, M F Geoghegan, S A Catz[†], V H C Cheng, J D Coombe[†], J L Durán[†], R A Fairhead[†],

DJ

Flint

, A A Flockhart, W K L Fung*, S T Gulliver, J W J Hughes-Hallett†, W S H Laidlaw†, Sir Mark Moody-Stuart†, G Morgan†, N R

N Murthy

†, S M Robertson† and Sir Brian Williamson†.

*

Non-executive Director

† Independent non-executive Director

For and on behalf of HSBC Holdings plc R G Barber Group Company Secretary

3.

The

HSBC

Group

HSBC Holdings plc, the parent company of the HSBC Group, is headquartered in

London

. The Group serves customers worldwide from more than 9,500 offices in 85 countries and territories in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, the

Americas

, the Middle East and

Africa

. With assets of US\$2,547 billion at 30 June 2008, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations. HSBC is marketed worldwide as 'the world's local bank'.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

HSBC Holdings plc

By:

Name: P A Stafford

Title: Assistant Group

Secretary

Date: November 20, 2008