

FORTUNE

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NEWS, EVENTS, PROMOTIONS + IDEAS

Fortune Global 500, 2008

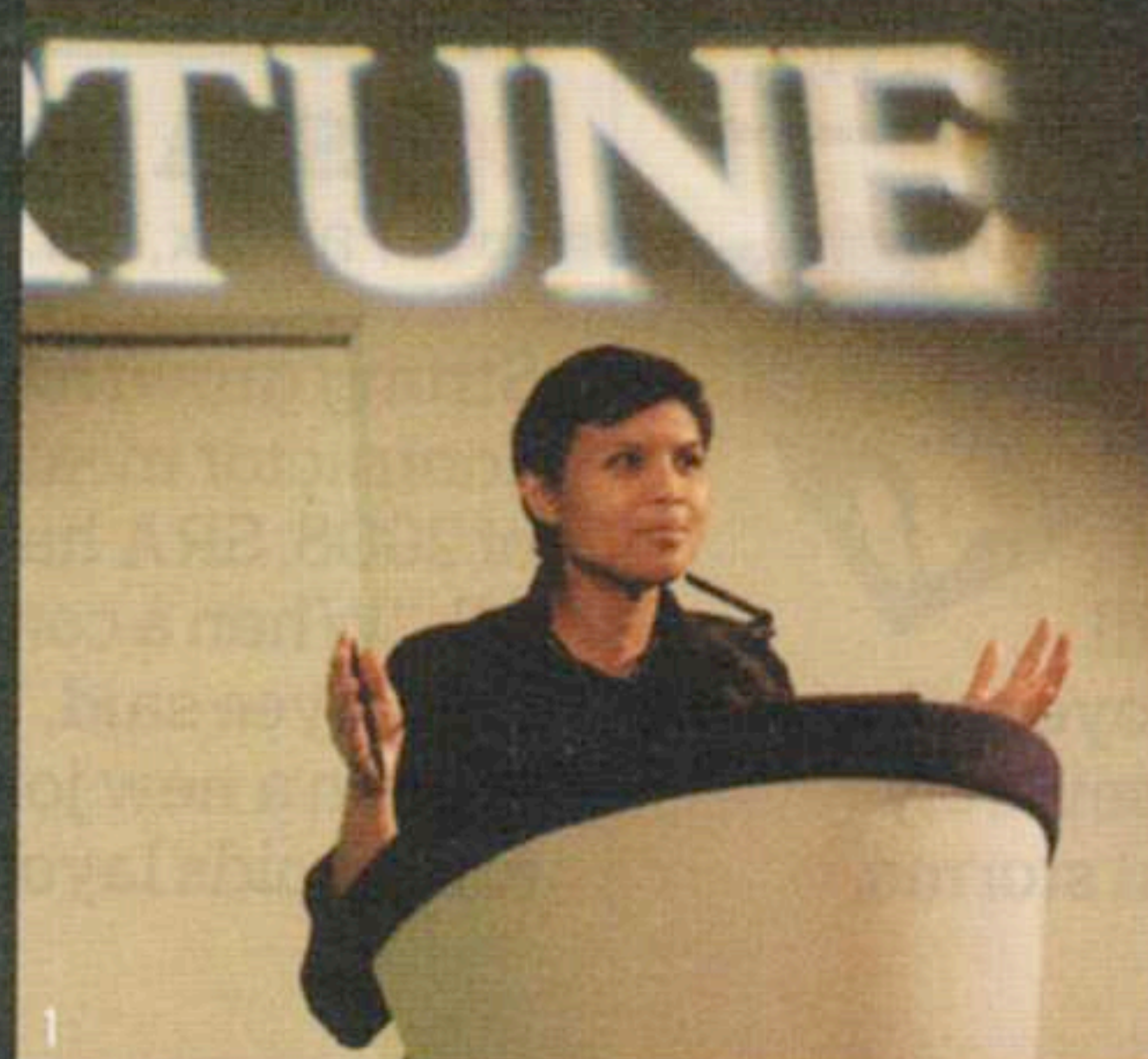
Top global business CEOs and senior leadership convened on Wednesday, October 8 for the fifth annual *Fortune* Global 500 event, held to celebrate some of the world's most successful corporations as ranked in the *Fortune* Global 500 signature list.

The Global 500 is *Fortune's* annual ranking of the world's largest companies and today's benchmark for global business success. This year's list was unveiled in the July issue of *Fortune*, with Wal-Mart Stores maintaining its title as the world's largest company. Taking second, third and fourth places respectively are Exxon Mobil, Shell and BP.

The invitation-only event was held at the iconic BT Tower, a 188 meter (618 ft) communications hub located in central London. Well known as a very special skyline address, the summit boasts spectacular 360 degree views of the city and beyond.

The event, entitled "*Innovation in the Global Economy*," was hosted by *Fortune* international editor Stephanie Mehta, with *Fortune* Europe editor Peter Gumbel and Andy Bush, publishing director EMEA. For the first time in its history, the Global 500 was extended to include an editorially-led series of conversations exploring global innovation practices and strategies.

PHOTOGRAPHY: PAUL SEVERN



In keeping with this theme, *Fortune* was delighted to welcome Ian Livingston, who assumed the position of BT CEO earlier this year after serving as chief executive of BT Retail, the telecom provider's consumer business. BT is recognized as a global leader in developing and implementing a portfolio of innovative services to support the communications requirements of consumers and business enterprises.

Girish S. Paranjpe, joint CEO of Wipro Technologies, the multi-billion dollar technology firm that provides solutions to many of the world's largest companies, took part in an informal Q&A with Stephanie Mehta, discussing the ways in which Wipro are spearheading collaborative innovation projects to spur growth.

Delegates also heard from Ann Moore, chairman and CEO of Time Inc., who oversees the world's leading magazine company. Ms Moore participated in an open panel discussion on innovation within *Fortune* Global 500 companies alongside Robert Corcoran, vice president of Corporate Citizenship, GE and Andre Andonian, director, McKinsey & Co.

To conclude, guests were joined at the summit of the BT Tower by Dame Ellen MacArthur for a cocktail reception in honor of the Global 500 companies. Dame MacArthur is currently an ambassador for BT's corporate social responsibility projects. *Fortune* was again delighted to support SportsAid as charitable partner to the Global 500. Building on the success of last year's event, SportsAid, a highly successful U.K. charity designed to promote and grow youth athletics,





1: STEPHANIE MEHTA, INTERNATIONAL EDITOR FORTUNE 2: (L-R) TOM RIPPIN, PRODUCT RED; ANDRE ANDONIAN, MCKINSEY & CO 3: (L-R) ROBERT CORCORAN, GE; ANN MOORE, TIME INC. 4: (L-R) BARNEY GIMBEL, FORTUNE; ANDRE ANDONIAN, MCKINSEY & CO; ROBERT COCORAN, GE; ANN MOORE, TIME INC. 5: IAN LIVINGSTON, BT 6: (L-R) PETER GUMBEL, FORTUNE; FRANÇOIS BARRAULT, BT 7: (L-R) IAN CHESHIRE, KINGFISHER; DAME ELLEN MACARTHUR 8: (L-R) BARNEY GIMBEL, FORTUNE; RICHARD MATZKE, LUKOIL 9: (L-R) TANYA COSTELLO; PETER GUMBEL, FORTUNE 10: (L-R) GIRISH S. PARANJPE, JOINT CEO OF WIPRO TECHNOLOGIES; STEPHANIE MEHTA, INTERNATIONAL EDITOR FORTUNE

was well represented by their CEO Tim Lawler and Olympic alumni and former javelin world record holder Steve Backley OBE. Mr Lawler and Mr Backley were accompanied by some of SportsAid's most promising young athletes tipped for success at London 2012.

2008 also saw the introduction of a new affiliate to the Global 500 event. The Marlon Arbela Restaurant Corporation, in partnership with *Fortune*, kindly awarded one lucky guest an exclusive dinner for six people at it's stylish Michelin starred restaurant, The Greenhouse. One of London's premier fine dining establishments, The Greenhouse has become a leading light of elegance and sophistication in the restaurant world, and an undisputable haven for wine lovers thanks to its 3200 bin, award-winning wine list.

This exclusive and intimate networking event forged ever deeper relations with some of the most influential Global 500 CEOs, demonstrating *Fortune's* leadership position in providing a forum for the Global C-suite.