Natacha Theytaz

Global Head of Novartis Business Assurance & Advisory and Head of Internal Audit

**Nationality:** Swiss | **Year of birth:** 1975

When Natacha Theytaz became the first Global Head of Novartis Business Assurance & Advisory (NBAA), she was determined to position the newly combined function as a trusted business advisor. This means striking the right balance between managing risks and supporting Novartis in making bold decisions that enable it to develop breakthrough therapies, and ultimately improve and extend people's lives.

Natacha joined the company as Head of Internal Audit in 2018, and her role expanded the following year when she became Head of NBAA. NBAA includes the Global Security and Internal Audit teams, who protect Novartis and its employees and provides business, management and the Board with independent advice and assurance to achieve their objectives.

> I wake up every morning inspired to make a difference. That’s because the NBAA team is keeping patients and employees safe, and supporting the business with successful innovation, development, manufacturing and commercialization of life-changing treatments so we can make them accessible for patients.

Natacha’s priorities include reimagining Internal Audit to provide risk-based assurance and advice on key strategic topics, progressing towards ‘real-time’ insights with new tools and data, as well as identifying emerging trends and root causes of recurring issues to best support remediation. With trust and reputation as a key driver, the Novartis anti-counterfeiting program was also upgraded to address the growing problem of falsified medicines and improve patient safety around the world.

Natacha draws on two decades of experience in internal audit, risk management and compliance at multinational corporations. She has also worked as an advisor at the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs and as a strategic consultant at Roland Berger.

Outside of Novartis, Natacha serves on the board of the EuroAirport Basel-Mulhouse-Freiburg. An avid runner, she has competed in more than 10 Swiss championships, as well as endurance events such as the Mongolia Sunrise to Sunset marathon.

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