

## **Thomas Lönngren. Executive Director of the European Medicines Agency**



Thomas Lönngren has been the Executive Director of the European Medicines Agency since 1 January 2001. He is currently serving a second five-year term, which expires at the end of 2010.

Mr Lönngren qualified as a pharmacist from the University of Uppsala, Sweden, in 1976 and holds an MSc in social and regulatory pharmacy. From 1976-78 he was a lecturer at the same university.

He served with the Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare from 1978-90, where his responsibilities included herbal medicines, cosmetics, medical devices, narcotics and contraceptives. From 1982-94, he acted as senior pharmaceutical consultant for the Swedish International Development Agency's health cooperation programme in Vietnam.

In 1990 he was appointed Director of Operations of the Swedish Medical Products Agency (MPA), of which he later became the Deputy Director-General.

He became an Honorary Member of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain in 2003 and was made an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in 2004. He was granted an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Uppsala in January 2008, and received the Drug Information Association's Distinguished Career Award in March 2008.